THE

MONTHLY EPITOME,

For JANUARY 1801.

I. *Retroſpection;* or, a Review of the moſt ſtriking and important Events, Characters, Situations, and their Conſequences, which the laſt Eighteen Hundred Years have preſented to the View of Mankind. By HESTER LYNCH PIOZZI. With a Portrait of the Author. In 2 vols. 4to. pp. 1001. 2l. 2s. *Stockdale.*

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EXTRACT FROM THE PREFACE.

"IF the Rambler is right when he ſays, 'That no man ever ob-'tains more from his moſt zealous en-'deavours, than a painful conviction 'of his own defects,' how ſtrongly muſt that conviction preſs upon her mind, who having collected all theſe facts together, preſents them as an object of *Retroſpection* to the public! Of thoſe who turn them over, how different, how numerous will be the cenſures! while each expects his favourite hero, his beſt-remembered incident, to be dilated and brought forward; inſtead of which, others perhaps appear, and take the lead.

"Different obſervers attach to every object different degrees of importance. Taking a country walk one day in a remote province, the ſteward adviſed ſpeedy removal of an ugly ſtag-horned tree. 'Oh!' cried out a gentleman in company who was taking views—'pray 'ſpare the favourite feature in my 'landſcape.'—'You have been, Sir, a 'friend to the diſtreſſed,' ſaid another of our party, who profeſſed natural philoſophy, 'in ſaving from the axe 'thoſe old dry boughs; for there are 'birds which will not perch among 'thick foliage, making rather a ſtag-'horned tree like this, their ſeat of 'delight all ſummer.'

"This converſation has come often to my mind; but the die is now caſt, and complaints are vain. If, however, I ſhould have made improper choice of facts, and if I ſhall be found at length moſt to reſemble Maiſter Fabyan of old, who writing the Life of Henry V. lays heavieſt ſtreſs on a new weather-cock ſet up on St. Paul's ſteeple during that eventful reign; my book muſt ſhare the fate of his, and be like that forgotten: reminding, before its death perhaps, a friend or two, of a poor man living in later times, that Dr. Johnſon uſed to tell us of; who being adviſed to take ſubſcriptions for a new geographical dictionary, haſtened to Bolt Court and begged advice. There, having liſtened carefully for half an hour, 'Ah, but, dear Sir!' exclaimed the admiring paraſite, 'if I am to make 'all this eloquent ado about Athens 'and Rome, where ſhall we find place 'do you think for Richmond or Aix-'la-Chapelle?' The perplexity was laughable enough: yet ſuch are the perplexities of a compiler; and for a mere compilation ſtretched to two quarto volumes, the apology muſt be a ſerious one. It will be found however, but among things and ſituations ſo far from laughable and ludicrous, that they appear even awfully impreſſive.

"To

"To an age of profound peace and literary quiet I ſhould have conſidered ſuch an abridgment as inſulting: to our diſturbed and buſy days abridgments only can be uſeful. No one has leiſure to read better books. Young people are called out to act before they know, before they could have learned how thoſe have acted who have lived before them. Hiſtory is voluminous, and faſhionable extracts are ſo perpetually ſeparated from each other by verſes or by eſſays, that they leave little trace of information on the mind: a natural conſequence, and manifeſt diſadvantage attendant upon all ſelections, where no one thing having any reference to another thing, each loſes much of its effect by ſtanding completely inſulated from all the reſt. Our work, though but a frontiſpiece and ruin, contains between the two ſome ſhaded drawings, ſuch as we find in rudiments of painting, and will, like them, be good for young beginners. Perhaps too, thoſe who long ago have read, and long ago deſiſted from reading hiſtories well known, may like to pleaſe their fancies with the *Retroſpect* of what they feel connected in their minds with youthful ſtudy, and that ſweet remembrance of early-dawning knowledge on the ſoul." *P.* iii.

EXTRACTS.

THE FOURTH CENTURY, FROM CONSTANTINE TO THEODOSIUS.

"WHILST enervate ſoftneſs marked the Eaſt, a rougher ſcenery diſplayed itſelf in Scotland, whence Eugenius and Euthodius were cruelly thruſt out, and exiled to periſh with hunger in the Iſle of Man; till Romachus, the petty tyrant of Caledonia, having offended his barons by this act of treaſon againſt youths of a royal blood, they cut his head off, carrying it in triumph upon a pike's end, according to the true ſpirit of ſuch irregular and turbulent times. The ſons, meanwhile, of Cynetha Weledig, whoſe mother Gwawl * was ſiſter to St. Helena, ruled on the ſhaggy top of Mona high, where the Loegrian Britons had retired from fury and encroachment of the Saxon chiefs; having firſt cleared the iſland from piratic rovers from the Iriſh coaſt, they ſettled, and Caſwallon then obtained (ſome ſay) the appellation of *Draco* Inſularum. I thought the *dragon creſt* and perhaps *rouge dragon* had been derived from him; but Pennant, who beſt knows ſuch matters, brings them from Uther Pendragon: he has himſelf a right to bear it, as I have read or heard, deriving his long-traced lineage from Vortigern; and it ſhould ſeem that dragons were not new to the world after cruſading times, *by this*; though Warton thinks they were. Yet 't is hard to believe, becauſe *Breſcia Brixia* gave it for an enſign in early days, if we believe the teſtimony of Rubæus. Be this as it may, ſcience had certainly begun to dawn among the barbarous nations; and a faint diſtant light, as Rome began rolling back towards opacity, might be diſcerned to promiſe day among the Goths, when Athanaricus, the Cecrops of modern ages, fixing in Thrace, encouraged Ulphilus, an Arian biſhop, to invent runic characters, and had the ſatisfaction of ſeeing thoſe arts of civilization ſown, which were deſtined to revive after the grand deluge of darkneſs, urged onwards by the Huns and Vandals, ſhould be dried off. But before then the timid Valens was conſumed in a ſmall houſe he had retired to from rage of war, which ſoon purſued him there and burned with fire. His rugged colleague Valentinian died in an agony of paſſion, burſting a blood-veſſel with his own violence at ſeeing himſelf forced to receive ambaſſadors from ſavage leaders of armies he at once deſpiſed and feared; but having aſſociated Gratian his ſon and ſucceſſor, the loſs was felt the leſs; while furious Maximin, a name that ever calls to mind ideas of tyranny, ruled but a little while. One of theſe ſemi-barbarous emperors, I forget which, had for his favourites two ſhapeleſs bears, probably leſs ferocious than himſelf; and excellent at ridding their maſter of friends or of petitioners he liked not. That nothing may appear impoſſible, I can myſelf recollect hearing of a country gentleman reſiding in Lancaſhire or Cheſhire ſome threeſcore years ago, who had the ſame taſte of domeſtic amuſement; and when more wine was called for than he wiſhed to give, 'Call Dolly in,' ſaid he, 'to

* "Gwawl means Giulia, Julia, Juliana: the Gillian of our Engliſh ballads."

'ſweep the room.' Immediately a high huge female bear, walking on two hind feet, with a long broomſtick between her fore paws, entered the door, and quickly ſent away the terrified ſpectators. But we return to feeble Gratian, who, as might be expected, ſoon fell before ſuch force as Maximin's; but like Nerva, he had been careful to provide the world a maſter, rich in every endowment, ſtrong in every ingredient that conſtitutes true courage; wiſe to conduct theſe gifts to the beſt purpoſe, and learned to obtain new lights from reading, ſhould his own prove inſufficient. In Theodoſius, a Spaniard like himſelf, even the remembrance of Trajan might be ſunk; he was the laſt emperor that went out with the Roman armies, and he lived till four hundred years were paſt ſince our redemption. Various in talents, though ſingle in excellence; he encouraged piety, he practiſed morality, he rewarded valour, and ſupported for a while expiring knowledge. *He* called the Church of Chriſt the *Catholic*, or general, or comprehenſive Church *Univerſal*. Happy, and pleaſing, and fortunate appellative! which ſhe will wear yet to the end of time, and againſt which the force of men or of dæmons never ſhall prevail." *Vol.* i. *p.* 112.

THE REIGN OF CHARLEMAGNE.

"LIFE takes a new appearance under the reign of Charlemagne. Knights, jouſts, tournaments, minſtrels, ladies; characters which have yet ſcarcely croſſed over our little *camera obſcura*, now act their parts, and crowd forward to the view of *Retroſpection*. Yet this new colour, if we call it ſuch, that gives a future tint to manners and to life, is but the ſhading off to gentler orange of that blood red, which marked ſo long the now merely *nominal* Roman empire. When the inhabitants of Germany's black foreſts firſt left their native woods for the rich vales of Italy, they carried to the ſcene of action, with their reſtleſs genius for conqueſt, a ſettled intent to beſtow modes of living, not accept them. Their purpoſe did ſucceed ſurpriſingly, old cuſtoms were broken up and died away, and a new ſyſtem was eſtabliſhing itſelf apace in all the nations of Europe. The earth was parcelled out, to various individuals, who maintained their portions independent of ſuperior power, and Charlemagne ſwayed a ſceptre ſupported by barons: he ſhook not his truncheon over trembling ſlaves —the form of things was changed—

——'The ceaſe of Majeſty
'Dies not alone, but like a gulf doth draw
'What 's near it, with it. 'T is a maſſy wheel
'Fix'd on the ſummit of the higheſt mount,
'To whoſe huge ſpokes ten thouſand leſſer things
'Are mortic'd and adjoin'd.'

SHAKESPEAR.

"The feudatorial ſyſtem of high-ſpirited nobles, who each commanded a large troop of vaſſals, and bound themſelves to bring them forth at a great leader's call, for defence of their own territories, or for the acquiſition of new ones, had a ferocious appearance upon the whole; but the general inclination for war was ſoftened by the reſpect paid to beauty, which they conſidered as their juſt and bright reward. Each generous boſom beat at the call of valour, but could not by his own authority ſeize on the ſighed-for privilege, or bear arms without permiſſion. Birth, age, and qualifications were to be examined, and while difficulty irritated deſire, the lady languiſhed for a gallant lover, diſtinguiſhed by his martial talents, and the youth panted for the happy moment when once adorned by the bright lance and ſhield, he ſhould throw at her feet a hero, acknowledged ſuch by his comrades, a knight reſpected even by his ſovereign. Chriſtianity was likewiſe young in the world, openly and with violence attacked by Saracens, tacitly ſneered at by unbelieving Jews, deteſted as a ſucceſsful enemy by Pagans. The votaries of religion thought it was man's firſt duty to protect her; Turpin, Archbiſhop of Rheims, fought valiantly in the field, by ſide of Charlemagne, and 'tis on that principle that we even yet ſee the ſword drawn in Poland at the moment of pronouncing the creed.

"Theology thus mingling itſelf with perſonal courage, and enthuſiaſtic piety inflamed by romantic love, not only ſent innumerable warriors to contend in the field of battle, for palms of valour

valour and prizes of beauty; but diſpoſed mankind to think beſide that conqueſt denoted the *approbation*, as well as the *care* of Heaven. Private quarrels were adjuſted, not by cold equity, but martial proweſs; a champion was granted to females, who could not defend themſelves from injury, and the next kinſman commonly preſſed forward to take on him the commendable office. Single combats whetted the general keenneſs for renown, and all concluded that he who fell had merited his fate. When ſword and ſhield were thus eſſential to exiſtence, when they were conſidered as ſole arbitrators of honour, ſole inſtruments of happineſs, what wonder if we find them cheriſhed to abſurdity? Marks of diſtinction, devices, and impreſſes, were affixed upon the ſecond, by which to know each other in the battle; and baptiſm was, I fear, very ſolemnly beſtowed upon the firſt. Thus Roland called his favourite ſword Durandal: we know Joyeuſe was the name of that worn by Charlemagne. Hamburgh was built by this extraordinary character, and Halberſtadt famed for its pied Piper in 1376. Charlemagne's twelve peers are, by romance, given to our Arthur; they are indeed ſo neceſſary to the old writers of theſe times, that I queſtion whether Sir Theſeus and Sir Aleſaundre had not twelve peers each. Theſeus, indeed, thoſe authors made a ſaint of; but ſaints and knights were all that poſſeſſed men's minds—

'With ſtore of *ladies*, whoſe bright eyes
'Rain influence and judge the prize
'In wit or arms, whilſt all contend
'To win her grace whom all commend.'

" The peers were twelve, becauſe the apoſtles had been twelve, appointed by our Saviour to ſit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Iſrael. Chriſtening ſwords * was ſcarcely left off till towards the time of our Queen Elizabeth; our tutelary ſaint made *his* full famous in all ballad ſtory,—

'When George, he ſhav'd the dragon's beard,
'And *Aſkelon* was his razor.'

But it was not peculiar to Chriſtianity. Mahomet had nine ſwords; the name of one was *death*, of another *piercing ruin*; and Odegir, the Dane, a Pagan I believe, called his keen weapon *ſpatha*: whence ſpada, and eſpada, and *ſpath* buckler, corrupted in our old plays to *ſwaſh buckler*. Charlemagne, meanwhile, though a mere ſoldier, ſcorned not thoſe arts which he forbore to cultivate; but brought to France maſters of arithmetic, and ſome ſay grammar. He was likewiſe, although a warlike prince, eminently gentle tempered † and indulgent to his children. A pretty ſtory of Princeſs Imma and her lover is related in the Spectator from Marquahand Freher. The gallant was Eginhart, who ſays of his ſovereign when he writes his life, that he could ſpeak Latin as eaſily as his own native Frankiſh, but that in Greek he had a bad pronunciation. When at the death of this great man the empire was again divided among his children, he charged them to live well with one another; and having ſpilt deluges of blood in order to unite the Weſt under one head, he willingly by teſtament parted it among his ſons, giving to Pepin Italy alone, to Louis le Debonnaire, France, with the exception of Normandy, which went with Auſtria, Saxony, and Bavaria, to Charles. That there might be no murderous diſputes among them after his deceaſe, he left a ſtrict command behind, that if they differed about any thing, the youth who ſhould be able and willing longeſt to ſupport the poſture in which our Saviour ſuffered crucifixion, was to obtain without further inquiry the purpoſe they contended for. This mode of deciſion afterwards grew common, and was called *jugement de la croix*. The French language now

* " Odin's horſe, and Odin's ſword, had names; Sleipner *(ſleep ne'er)* and Tirfing: I don't know what *tirfing* meant. The daughter of Hialmar comes in the night for Tirfing; it was made by the dwarfs, and had peculiar properties, diſpoſing her to diſturb the dead that ſhe might obtain it."

† " Charlemagne was himſelf of an amorous diſpoſition, had many miſtreſſes, and two or three wives. *L'amour de Dieu et des dames* went together in thoſe days."

began

began to ſupplant the Latin, on whoſe wreck 't was raiſed; verſes were written and ſongs were ſung in praiſe of love and valour; while bards, troubadours, tale-tellers and minſtrels, ſoftening the ferocious temper of the times, ſoon taught each warrior ſpirit how to bend before a diſtant and difficultly-acquired fair one; muſic lent her aid beſide to animate and to inſpire devotion. The French ſingers however, even then, had the characteriſtic roughneſs peculiar to their nation, and made the *ſaſſe di capra*, as Italians ſtill call a coarſe bad ſhake. *Trilletaccio!* ſay they: at Paris Gluck, in my own time, ſaid to his ſcholars, *Ne chevrotez pas**. Our Engliſh have a joke on Wales and Welſhmen that expreſſes this fault with much accuracy. *Waaaales*, replies the goat, when his Anglo-Saxon neighbours travelling over Snowdon, aſk him, 'How d' ye call this country?' and at the ſame time ſhake him by the beard. While thus the Weſt began, at leaſt in ſome reſpects, to emerge out of that ſad Cimmerian darkneſs in which ſhe had long dropt inert and lifeleſs, Irene's death hung heavy on her ſucceſſor, who, born her vaſſal, was never by the Queen's ſubjects willingly obeyed. Bardanes was proclaimed emperor; but ſoon, after a fruitleſs conteſt for the purple, ſunk *his* pretenſions in a monaſtery. The rebel chamberlain, however, fared no better; and Michael, Leo, and Theophilus, were only other names for wickedneſs and impious folly. This laſt being born of mean parents, fired a rich ſhip loaded with merchandiſe, that no one might ſuſpect his natural inclination for commerce, and made his ſubjects cut the hair from their heads, becauſe his own was thin. Notwithſtanding theſe mad caprices, he made war not unſucceſsfully againſt the Saracens, although in theſe days they built Candy, and gave new name to ancient Crete, head-quarters of pagan mythology. The labyrinth however yet remained upon their coins and arms: Rubæus ſays 't was their device in his time, and he lived in 1690. The popes, meanwhile, increaſed their influence daily; nor was it *influence* now, but firm authority. Charlemagne's ſons could not agree, and Gregory IV. like Chaos umpire ſate, and by deciſion more imbroiled the fray." *Vol.* i. *p.* 216.

(To be continued.)

II. *Travels in the Interior of Africa*, from the Cape of Good Hope to Morocco, from the Years 1781 to 1797; through Caffraria, the Kingdoms of Mataman, Angola, Matſi, Monoemugi, Muſchako, &c. likewiſe acroſs the Great Deſert of Sahara, and the northern Parts of Barbary. Tranſlated from the German of CHRISTIAN FREDERICK DAMBERGER. Illuſtrated by a Map and coloured Plates. 8vo. pp. 299. 10s. 6d. *Longman and Rees.*

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* "Don't ſing like a *goat*."

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PREFACE.

"NOT the empty pride of being enrolled among the authors of this literary age, but the wiſhes of my friends and patrons, to ſee the ſcience of geography and the hiſtory of nations enlarged by a narrative of what I have ſeen and learnt during my travels, are the motives that have led to the publication of the following work. Many indeed are the writers, who having made an excurſion of forty or fifty miles from their native place, are eager to ſee their travels in print; boaſt of the dangers and misfortunes they have encountered; or deſcribe cities and towns, of which they have taken but a very curſory view, and which they praiſe or diſpraiſe according to their caprice. Yet their works are not only read, but they are urged to write more. Now as I may aſſert, without preſumption, that no native of Germany has ever undertaken ſo hazardous an expedition, in this hitherto almoſt unknown land, in the interior of which I have travelled on foot, during ſixteen years, entirely alone, I venture to hope, that I am rendering real ſervice to the public, by communicating the facts and obſervations that occurred during its continuance. And although theſe obſervations may not bear the ſtamp of ſcience and erudition, yet I can ſolemnly aver, that I was an *eye-witneſs* to all I have related, and have adhered in all things moſt ſtrictly to truth. When I have found occaſion to correct the errors of former travellers, which have been received as facts on their authority, as, for inſtance, thoſe of M. Le Vaillant, or ſupply what they have omitted, I have acted from no other motive than the love of truth; for thoſe I have myſelf committed, I hope I ſhall meet with candour and indulgence. The names of the nations, towns, and countries I viſited, may

elſewhere

elſewhere be written otherwiſe than I have ſpelt them; but I have governed myſelf by the pronunciation of the natives; for in moſt of theſe countries nothing written is to be found *. I adopted the names of many towns and places as laid down upon maps; but many are totally wanting, not only in charts, but in all geographical works. Theſe defects will be in a great meaſure corrected and ſupplied, in the map annexed to the following ſheets. Of countries already fully and accurately deſcribed by others, I have ſaid little, to avoid repeating what is already known. Some objects which required the illuſtration of drawings, I have endeavoured to deſign with as much fidelity as I could, and the artiſt has ſucceeded in the execution to the life itſelf.

"Should this work be ſo fortunate as to meet with a favourable reception from the public, it is my intention, provided I remain in Europe, to write, as a ſequel to it, a full and accurate geographical account of the leaſt-known countries and kingdoms of which I have treated; as, for inſtance, Bahahara, Haouſſa, &c. &c. †.

"CHRIST. FRED. DAMBERGER."

Auguſt 1800.

EXTRACTS.

THE KINGDOM OF MATAMAN, &c.

"THE kingdom of Mataman, though mountainous, poſſeſſes many fertile vallies, moſt beautiful meadows, and many fruit-trees; but the inhabitants are too lazy to improve the advantages as they ought. The king is an unlimited hereditary monarch, and is called ſohaawoia (choſen by the gods). His office is inherited by his male deſcendants; or, in default thereof, by the female. When the latter come to the throne, they chooſe from among their ſubjects a huſband, who reigns jointly with his wife; but it muſt firſt be ſatisfactorily aſcertained, by the elders of the land, whether he poſſeſſes the neceſſary talents and abilities. The king is alſo the chief prieſt and ſoothſayer, beſides which, he is chief overſeer of the youth; and his deciſions are reſpected even when he judges falſely. He has the excluſive privilege of marrying ſeveral wives, and appoints ſubordinate judges, prieſts, &c. The king does not march againſt the enemy, but gives the command of the troops to others. The ſoldiers are brave, and very dexterous with the bow; their number is ſaid to be thirty thouſand.

"In this kingdom are three large towns, the moſt populous of which is Seenhofa. This town is ſituated two days journey from the frontiers by which I entered the country, and is the royal reſidence. In each town is a chief appointed by the king, who is alſo prieſt, and is called *mohwoia*. He cannot, however, paſs ſentence of his own authority, but muſt put in force the deciſion of the king.

"In their religious uſages, this nation coincide in many things with the Mohammedans, and practiſe circumciſion, accompanied with certain ceremonies. Divine ſervice is performed in the morning in the open air, at a place choſen by the prieſt. It is very ſimple, the people forming a circle, and the prieſt making an harangue.

"Marriages are here, as among the South-caffres, contracted without ceremony. The men eſteem and love their wives, and therefore do not burden them with too much labour; but diſ-

* "The tranſlator has followed his author, except by changing the *v* into *f*, the *j* into *y*, the *k* ſometimes into *c*, the *ä* into *e* or *é*, the *eu* into *ei*, &c. according to the pronunciation of the German language; and in the ſecond volume the *w* is often changed into *v*, for the ſame reaſon: the vowels therefore here printed ſhould be pronounced as in all European languages, except Engliſh. The *ch* being a guttural could not be expreſſed better than as in the original."

† "The tranſlator has ſometimes reminded the reader, that the author, in ſpeaking of apparently ſhort diſtances, reckons by German miles, which are explained the firſt time they occur. This he has done by introducing the word *German*, which, however, does not occur in the original, and therefore the larger numbers of miles occaſionally mentioned are probably German alſo.

"In all the ſpeeches of the original the pronoun of the ſecond perſon ſingular is uſed; but this being a Germaniſm, and it not being ſaid expreſsly to have been actually employed, the tranſlator has more familiarly rendered it by the plural."

charge

charge many domeſtic offices themſelves. Children continue till about their fourth year, or till their underſtandings begin to unfold, under the ſole care of their parents; after which the boys are placed under the *mobwoia*, and the girls are inſtructed by his wife.

"Their dreſs conſiſts of palm-leaf aprons, extending to the knees. The men twiſt their hair round bones, generally ribs of ſheep; and I ſaw ſeveral who wore ſix, and even eight, pieces dangling to their heads. The women bind their hair with thongs, and many of them have from four to ſix of theſe treſſes hanging over their foreheads.

"The inhabitants of Mataman eat but one regular meal a day, which is at ſunſet, taking in the intermediate time ſome millet, or rye, and ſour milk. Proviſions often fail through their extreme lazineſs; for they prefer faſting ſeveral days together, to taking a little trouble to procure food. Salt is rarely met with. It is brought from the kingdom of Mazumbo, in exchange for ſkins; but they are often without it for years, when at war with that nation. In this caſe, many uſe a very bad ſpecies of ſalt, obtained by burning the bones of wild beaſts.

"At my arrival I was conducted to the hut of the *mobwoia*, who gave me a little milk and a handful of barley. When I had eaten this, the man who had brought me into the village, alſo gave me milk and barley, which offended the former; and a violent diſpute aroſe, which, however, produced no bad conſequences. The *mobwoia* maintained that it was his right, as chief, to ſhow me hoſpitality; while the other aſſerted, that he had the ſame right, having brought me to the village *." *Vol.* i. *p.* 168.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE ANGOLANS.

"THE kingdom of Angola extends fourteen days journey from eaſt to weſt, and ten from north to ſouth. The face of the country is alternately varied with mountains, bare rocks, fertile vales, and the fineſt paſtures, which offer the inhabitants competency and ſuperfluity, were they not too lazy to enjoy the bleſſings nature beſtows, caring for their daily ſuſtenance alone. The country is interſected by many ſmall rivers, beſides the great river Bambe, which forms the northern boundary between this kingdom and that of Congo, and waters with its numerous branches the adjacent countries. To the eaſt Angola is bounded by the kingdom of Matamba, to the ſouth by Benguela and Sova, and to the weſt by the ſea.

"This country produces ſaltpetre, ſilver, tin, and a great quantity of ivory, all which the Portugueſe endeavour to purchaſe, as alſo a great quantity of ſkins of all ſorts. It is one of the richeſt countries in beaſts of all kinds, and affords its inhabitants the means of ſubſiſtence without much labour. Of the elephant and rhinoceros it ſeems, as it were, the native home, for they are met with in large herds; but the breeding of cattle is not in repute, the fleſh of wild beaſts being generally eaten.

"The kings of Angola were formerly ſubject to the ſovereigns of Congo; but the preſent king ſeparated from them, aſſerted his liberty, and thus obtained the love and veneration of his ſubjects, inſomuch that women and children take the field whenever war is declared againſt him. He has alſo a court, conſiſting of twenty-four *manis*, fifty prieſts, and two hundred and fifty ſoldiers armed with muſkets, which they uſe with great dexterity, and which were taken in a ſudden attack made on the Portugueſe in 1763.—Each city is ſuperintended by two *manis*, and every village by one; who, however, cannot judge any cauſe, but muſt make a report to the king, and receive his deciſion. At this time the king was about thirty-ſix years old, wore long blue breeches and a red cloak, made of bad materials. He is an enemy to the Portugueſe, and to all Chriſtians; he therefore reſtrains their liberty of trading in his territories, and ſeems only waiting a proper opportunity entirely to prohibit their entering his dominions.

"The military force conſiſts of fifty thouſand well-diſciplined infantry; but

* "I ſince found that the chief was right, and that, according to the laws of the land, it is his place to receive ſtrangers; he having the ſuperintendence of the public granaries, from which he may take corn for their uſe."

there is no cavalry, owing to the ſcarcity of horſes, their increaſe being prevented by the great number of wild beaſts. Buffaloes are uſed for military operations, and to carry the baggage.

"The king generally gives audience in the open air, ſurrounded by his body-guard, and officers holding drawn ſwords in their hands. Theſe latter he calls *fidalgos* *, and the former *mocarani* (the beſt ſoldiers), though they never fight in the field. The prieſts, who are called *evanga*, are next in rank to the king; and after them is the *tambocado*, or chief juſtice, before whom the *manis* are obliged to lay their reports for further inveſtigation; after which this officer lays them before the king, or cauſes them to be preſented by the prieſts.

"The Angolans do not pray to idols, though they worſhip the ſun and moon as the ſupreme divinities; and each change of the latter is celebrated as a holyday, when no one can go a-hunting. Days of penitence, however, are appointed when ſtorms ariſe; for then they ſay the great lord is angry. On theſe occaſions they refrain from all food, and quit their huts, eſpecially when it thunders during the night; lying down with their faces on the ground till the ſtorm is paſt. The harveſt-feaſt continues three days, and is celebrated with the greateſt rejoicings. The Angolans are pagans, yet circumciſion prevails; and there are huts devoted to the ſervice of God, where, on the days appointed by the prieſts, religious aſſemblies are held.

"The regulation of domeſtic affairs is very ſimple; and although nature has provided wild beaſts of numerous ſpecies, and various kinds of fruit, yet the inhabitants live very poorly. Agriculture is purſued in very few places; but barley, Indian corn, and a ſpecies of millet, are ſown; and the gourds and water-melons are alſo very good. Of muſcles the inhabitants are extremely fond, and travel many miles to ſeek them.

"Marriages are here attended with many ceremonies. A prieſt bleſſes the young couple, who ſit upon the ground, with certain forms which no one underſtands, then walks ſeveral times round them with his ſtaff, and drives the evil ſpirits away. The family then light a fire, in which this ſtaff is burnt to aſhes, and being mixed in milk, is bleſſed by the prieſt and ſwallowed by the young couple. This is done to favour fecundity, and avert various evils. Polygamy is permitted and cuſtomary; but open divorces are not allowed, although many women are compelled by ill-treatment to leave their huſbands.

"Children are here carefully brought up, being inſtructed by the prieſts in writing and in the laws and religion of the country. For paper the Angolans uſe the ſkin of a beaſt, covered with ſoot and fat, and for pens they employ a ſharp-pointed bone. Inſtruction is given in the open air; and I obſerved that the children are here much more attentive than in many German ſchools. All boys belong to the king, who cauſes them, when grown up, to be taught the uſe of arms, for which the father receives a certain bounty; as for example, to every one that brings in a grown-up ſon, a year's ſubſiſtence is given. To provide for this heavy expenſe, the king takes a third of the produce of the chaſe, of all booty, of the harveſt, and of all other gains.

"The dreſs of the Angolans is very various; many of them only wearing aprons of palm-leaves, and others adding an aſh-coloured cloak, made of bad cloth or linen, purchaſed of the Portugueſe. Others wear ſkins of various beaſts on their backs. Their hair is not long, but curly, and they adorn it with muſcle-ſhells, chaplets, and other ornaments, purchaſed of the Portugueſe. They paint their cheeks blue or red; and, their nails being never cut, the fingers of thoſe, who, in order to make a brilliant appearance in public, ſecure them from accidents, reſemble the talons of an eagle.

"Toward the natives of Africa the Angolans are very hoſpitable, but to Chriſtians they will not give a night's lodging, nor do they willingly permit them to enter their country; to avoid which, they carry the merchandiſe to be exchanged to the Portugueſe, and bring back what they purchaſe. The Portugueſe factories of Loanda and Gambamba are alſo obliged to ſend envoys twice a year to the king, at his reſidence called Manpango, to appeaſe him in ſome degree, as he will not

* "A Portugueſe word, ſignifying noblemen."

ſuffer

ſuffer ſo many of his ſubjects to be kidnapped and enſlaved. But ſhould an alliance, that has been projected, be formed between this prince and the king of Mataman, the Portugueſe may, in all probability, be treated in this country as they were at Japan."—— *Vol.* i. *p.* 206.

THE KINGDOMS OF MALEMBA AND CACONGO.

"IN this place it may be proper to ſay ſomething concerning the nation, deſcribed to be ſo ſavage, I was now viſiting.—The tract of country inhabited by them is divided into three parts; and, though mountainous, is yet very fruitful. Their minerals are copper, lead, tin, and a ſmall matter of gold-duſt. The ſoil produces pulſe, Turkiſh corn, millet, gourds, the ſugar-cane, and tobacco. Here is alſo made a very tolerable palm-wine, and an excellent liquor from the expreſſed juice of plums. The profits ariſing from cotton are at preſent but trifling, as, from the perpetual wars with the neighbouring nations, the culture of it is much diminiſhed and impeded: thus, for inſtance, in 1780, the fine foreſt near the city Alimthangoy, or Ango, ſix miles long, and nearly as broad, which uſed to produce great quantities of cotton, was entirely burnt. Animals, both wild and tame, are found in great abundance; as elephants, highly prized for their ivory, ranoſters, lions, tigers, and wolves, in the ſkins whereof a great trade is carried on to Malemba, the emporium of commerce in this country, and there ſold to the Europeans, particularly the Dutch. Beſides theſe, here are buffaloes, oxen, peacocks, oſtriches, red and blue ſtriped rock-doves, of extraordinary ſize, pheaſants, &c. The hares of this country, which are called mazato, are as large as the Weſt Indian ſilk hares; but their fur, as well as the wool of the ſheep, which reſemble our hounds, is entirely uſeleſs. The great lake above the town of Malemba yields excellent fiſh, and particularly very large and well-taſted ſhell-fiſh.—The three diviſions of the country are: 1. The upper part, bordering on the ſea, belongs to the Portugueſe. 2. The middle region, inhabited by the Malembaneſe themſelves, who dwell in the heart of the country, and on the weſtern ſide are contiguous to the Portugueſe compting-houſes. 3. The third, or lower part, is the kingdom of Cacongo. Both theſe nations, about a hundred and fifty years ago, were under the dominion of a king; but in the ſequel, ſome great men of the court of Loango, taking advantage of the ſloth and careleſſneſs of that monarch, raiſed an army for the purpoſe of erecting kingdoms for themſelves; and thus were formed the kingdoms of Malemba and Cacongo, which, however, ſince that period, have undergone ſeveral revolutions.

"The two principal nations, which ſet bounds to the uſurpations of the Portugueſe, are able to bring into the field, including the auxiliaries furniſhed them by the neighbouring nations in amity with them, thirty thouſand fighting men, whoſe weapons conſiſt ſolely of bows and arrows, and who have ſhown themſelves brave on all occaſions. The army conſiſts entirely of infantry.—Their religion, which is paganiſm, is not burdened with ceremonies, nor degraded by idolatry, as they admit of only one ſupreme being, whom they adore by ſupplications, morning and evening daily, in temples meanly conſtructed. The prieſts have no influence whatever in the government, neither are they ſo highly revered as in other heatheniſh nations. The Portugueſe have taken great pains to diſſeminate Chriſtianity in theſe parts, but without ſucceſs. From what I could learn, it was chiefly the numerous ceremonies, but more eſpecially the dogmas which human reaſon cannot comprehend, that deterred the heathens, accuſtomed to a ſimple worſhip, from adopting Chriſtianity.—Buildings for ſchools are here not ſeen, as the children are inſtructed in a verdant lawn under the open ſky. The art of writing has been long known among them, the leaves of the palm ſerving them inſtead of paper, and for pens they uſe the ſmall bones of birds or of fiſh.—The colour of the inhabitants is properly dark brown rather than reddiſh, and gives them a wild look. In their perſons they are moſtly large and ſtout, having large eyes, long hair, which they ornament with little bones and ſhells, flat noſes, and thick pouting lips. All the inhabitants go naked as low as the waiſt, round which they wear aprons of ſkins or palm-leaves. Thoſe who

live in the vicinity of the Portugueſe poſſeſſions, wear aprons of blue ſtriped linen, which is as thin as our boulting-cloth. The women are only diſtinguiſhable by having the hair braided in five or ſix treſſes, which they twiſt round the head and decorate with ſhells, bones, and particularly with glaſs beads. They all ſmear their bodies with greaſe, obtained by broiling the ſheep-tails, which continues always in a fluid ſtate. I myſelf was obliged to comply with this diſguſting practice. My ſkin was ſo ſcorched by the ſun as to cauſe me conſiderable pain.—The houſes are built of reeds, wood, and clay, occaſionally even of rough ſtone, but are very like the common huts, with a circular roof, in which an aperture is made for letting out the ſmoke. —Their ordinary food is curdled milk, meal, fiſh, and the fleſh of animals they take by hunting.—Of tame beaſts they ſlay none except on holydays. —The people in towns live better than thoſe of the villages. Culinary veſſels are known, though little in uſe, as they are ſo ſtrongly attached to their old hereditary way of dreſſing their food. In no other territory of Africa is hoſpitality carried to ſo high a degree as here. A traveller that is unacquainted with the country is never allowed to purſue his journey alone, but is always accompanied either to ſome other village, or to a ſpot whence he can no longer miſtake his way.—The people are in general good-humoured and kind, cheerfully imparting to others of what they have, and abſolutely refuſing to receive any acknowledgment. Injuries are acutely felt, and jealouſy is univerſally prevalent. If a man have but the ſlighteſt ſurmiſe that his wife has a private underſtanding with another, or eſteems him in ever ſo ſmall a degree, ſhe is obliged to attend him every where, that ſhe may have no opportunity of being faithleſs to him.—Moſt of the men are employed in the chaſe and the fiſhery, and exerciſe themſelves in arms. Some make earthen wares, others forge arms, and others again weave nets.

"I travelled with my guide through the villages Magay, Ahala, and Seehang, and ſpent the night in the town of Kungoha. This is ſituate in a marſhy diſtrict, at the foot of a ſmall chain of mountains. I counted here about two hundred and ſeventy miſerable houſes, and found ſtinking water, fetched from the diſtance of a mile and a half from the town. The generality of the inhabitants are miners, chiefly working in the adjacent mountains. Maſavah, king of Cacongo, is lord of the town, where he keeps two judges, who in ſome ſort form the magiſtracy. I was very well received, though I perceived a neceſſity for proſecuting my journey the next morning, as I was taken for a white ſlave, and a deſire to detain me was very apparent: however, on ſliding a guilder into the hand of the judge, he ſuffered me to depart." *Vol.* ii. *p.* 12.

THE YAGANESE.

"THE Yaganeſe, a ſmall and poor nation, for the moſt part dwell in foreſts, living on tree-fruits and roots. The chaſe is not very productive to them; as the tigers are in ſuch abundance as to let no other animal become numerous. Only elephants and tigers are met with in any quantity; in exchange for the teeth of the former the people get javelins and hunting-ſpears.—The tract of country inhabited by this nation is properly a part of Malemba; but they made themſelves independent, and poſſeſs eight villages, which lie ſo, that the inhabitants of them may in one day aſſemble together on the ſame ſpot.—Every village has a chieftain, choſen from among the valianteſt. Concerning the origin of this nation I was not able to learn any thing: to me it ſeems not unlikely that they are deſcended from that of Kongo. The number of fighting men, according to their account, is about a thouſand, and they boaſt much of the bravery of their people. The king of Cacongo, who is ſtyled protector and ſovereign of the Yaganeſe, can only rely upon the aid and aſſiſtance of this nation ſo long as he eſteems and honours them; they never receive any arbitrary commands from him. Notwithſtanding that he has far more warriors in his own country, yet he could do this ſmall nation but little harm, were he never ſo much inclined to injure them, as they dwell on mountains, in foreſts, and other hiding-places. They are accuſed of being much addicted to robbery, and even of feeding on human fleſh. I never perceived

perceived the ſmalleſt indications of this; though they told me ſeveral times that the neighbouring Monomotapans never failed to thieve whenever they had an opportunity, and even devoured the fleſh of their captives. The people here likewiſe are hoſpitable, preſenting ſtrangers with the beſt of what their country affords. Travellers who confidently put themſelves under their protection, are ſure that no injury will be done them.—They have neither king nor prieſts, living in perfect ſimplicity of manners, and in conformity with the dictates of nature. If one diſtrict be deficient in water, they go northwards, particularly to a branch of the river Bambo, which has water the whole year through. The children grow up without any tuition, and their formation is left entirely to themſelves. The employment of the men, hunting excepted, is altogether inſignificant. The women bring home wood, feed the fire, and go out to gather fruits. No mats or aprons are here made; the people ſleep on ruſhes, and go quite naked. Moſt of them lie in a ſtate of total inaction on their ſedgy couch frequently all day and all night; and I may ſafely affirm, that here are found the larieſt people in all Africa.—I ſaw no religious rites among them, nor could I learn that they ever obſerved any.—The chieftain invited me to ſtay as long with him as I pleaſed, ſaying, 'Stay here, ſtay, ſtranger; 'while thou art here it will go well 'with us, and thou ſhalt not ſtarve.' Of the latter I was not quite certain; for on hot days theſe folks ate little or nothing, but continued lying idly on the ſtraw; I was obliged therefore to go and look out for fruits and roots for my own ſuſtenance; and to avoid becoming as lazy as they were, I made acquaintance with a girl who carved figures on bleached bones. She buried the bones in moiſt ſand, then taking them out, ſhe laid them to heat in the ſun, which, with the moiſture, exhaled all their impurities; which done, ſhe, with ſtones, carved on them various kinds of figures. She was ſo ready and ingenious at this, that there are perhaps numbers of tolerable artiſts who would find it difficult to imitate her work.—Concubinage is here denied to none, it being accounted a natural want which no one ought to reſiſt.—I tarried till the end of the year with this good-natured people, even went out with them ſometimes againſt their enemies, and aſſiſted in carrying off a couple of war-buffalos *. They were afterwards ſlaughtered, and eaten at the feaſt in celebration of the victory. On teſtifying my deſign of leaving them to proſecute my journey, moſt of the inhabitants of the village exhibited evident ſigns of ſorrow; and when I aſked them to ſhow me the direct road to the kingdom of Maſſi, numbers of them offered to conduct me to the borders. They gave me a quantity of dried roots and a water-pouch † for my journey." *Vol.* ii. *p.* 40.

(To be concluded in our next.)

III. *Travels in the French Republic:* containing a circumſtantial View of the preſent State of Learning, the

* "I ought to have deſcribed them before. They are trained up from their infancy to this purpoſe; firſt, by ſplitting their horns into ſeveral parts, and gradually bending them forwards diſtinctly, which gives the animal a formidable appearance. Then they are ſo tamed and taught, that, on being goaded with a ſharp-pointed ſtick, by a man either ſitting on their back or coming behind them, they run forwards with all ſpeed. In battle they are thus puſhed on amidſt the enemy, where they do much miſchief, by overthrowing or maiming whatever they meet, with the numerous ends of their horns. It is common to hang a doubly-folded piece of the hide of an elephant before the head and the breaſt, to prevent the javelins from wounding them ſo much, and likewiſe that they may not be terrified at ſeeing the hoſt of enemies that ruſh upon them."

† "Theſe pouches are made of the entrails and bowels of the elephant, rubbed out with aſhes and dried in the air. They ſerve for carrying water, particularly in travelling. When filled with water, they are tied round the body, and when the traveller is in want of freſh water, he ſuſpends them in the air between two pieces of wood or two trees, that the water may be cooled. Theſe ſacks or pouches are of infinite uſe to travellers in theſe parts, as by their means they have always a refreſhing draught at hand."

Arts,

Arts, Manufactures, learned Societies, Manners, &c. in that Country. By THOMAS BYGGE, Profeſſor of Mathematical Aſtronomy in the Univerſity of Copenhagen, late Commiſſioner from Denmark to the National Inſtitute, and Member of ſeveral learned Societies and Academies of Sciences. Tranſlated from the Daniſh by JOHN JONES, L. L. D. 12mo. pp. 405. With a Frontiſpiece. 6s. *Phillips, Carpenter.*

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EXTRACTS FROM THE TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE—ACCOUNT OF THE AUTHOR.

"THOMAS Byggé, profeſſor of mathematics and aſtronomy in the univerſity of Copenhagen, and for the royal navy, and member of ſeveral learned ſocieties and academies of ſciences, is, ſince the death of Tycho Brahe, and the reſtoration of aſtronomy in Denmark, the eighth aſtronomer in ſucceſſion, of the royal obſervatory at Copenhagen. After the deſtruction of Tycho's obſervatory, on the iſland of Huen, Chriſtian IV. in the year 1632, erected in his capital a new and ſtately *Uranienburg*. It is a tower one hundred and twenty Rhineland feet in height *, conſtructed with great ſtrength and ſolidity, and with much architectural ſkill. From the ſummit of the building there is a very fine proſpect. The winding ſtaircaſe which leads to it, forms with the horizon an angle of only 5½ degrees, and makes an aſcent ſo commodious and eaſy, that, in the year 1716, the Czar Peter the Great ſeveral times rode up it, and his conſort, the Empreſs Catharine, drove up and down in a coach and ſix." *P.* vi.

"Thomas Byggé holds a diſtinguiſhed rank, not only among the moſt uſeful aſtronomers of Europe, but likewiſe among the moſt active promoters of the ſcience of geography. He took an active eſſential part in compiling the excellent and beautiful maps, publiſhed by the royal academy of ſciences at Copenhagen. When the deſign of preparing theſe maps was formed, Profeſſor Byggé was appointed the firſt trigonometrical and aſtronomical obſerver. But theſe are not the only ſervices he has rendered to geography: in a more extenſive degree has he contributed to the advancement of that ſcience, by forming under his care a number of young men. Soeberg, the brothers Wibe, D'Aubert, Rich, Pihl, Fievog, Ginge, Engelhart, &c. names eminent in the annals of aſtronomy, emerged from the ſchool of Byggé. A number of young officers in the Daniſh navy and army enjoyed Byggé's inſtructions in practical aſtronomy, and

* "Nearly 124 feet Engliſh."

under

under him acquired that knowledge which enabled them to furniſh many uſeful and valuable obſervations from Norway, Iceland, Greenland, and the Eaſt and Weſt Indies, and thereby improved the defective geography of thoſe regions.

"None of Byggé's predeceſſors, ſo immediately and directly as he, applied aſtronomy to the benefit of his country, and to the advancement of navigation. By his very accurate menſurations, a fairer baſis of contribution, new calculations, and juſter fiſcal regulations were eſtabliſhed, which being more accurately proportioned to the poſſeſſions of the different contributors, many errors and defects in political economy, and innumerable litigations concerning landed property, were thereby prevented. He alſo determined and laid down with the greateſt care, the true poſition of all the coaſts, harbours, iſlands, rocks, and ſand-banks in the Belts, and the Categate, which are very dangerous to ſhips, and were before partly unknown; and thus he rendered the navigation of the Daniſh ſeas more ſecure." *P.* x.

EXTRACTS.

VALENCIENNES—FRENCH VILLAGES —CHANTILLY.

"VALENCIENNES is the firſt ſtage in Old France. I came in on that ſide which was attacked by the Auſtrians. In the part near the rampart, whole ſtreets and lanes have been demoliſhed, ſome have been levelled to the ground, and others burnt. They have not made the leaſt attempt, ſince the ſiege, to rebuild or repair them. Copenhagen has been more fortunate in this reſpect. The third part of that city was conſumed by fire, and in leſs than three years the whole was rebuilt on an extenſive and improved plan, far ſuperior to the former. Fire-engines are found to be of great uſe in Denmark, even in villages. I am not certain that fire-engines are uſed in France, or in what manner they are regulated and kept up ſince the revolution.

"The French villages will loſe by compariſon, in the eye of the traveller, who has juſt paſſed through the neat and handſome ones of the Netherlands. The firſt moment you ſet your foot in the environs of Valenciennes, you are encircled with a hoſt of beggars, ſo importunate, that they rather demand than ſolicit charity. It ſeems that, ſhortly after the revolution, a number of the youth of both ſexes, engaged in the manufactures, were thrown out of employment, and reduced to the neceſſity of living on the caſual bounty of travellers.

"In order to ſhow my paſs, it was neceſſary that I ſhould go to the municipality, and thence to the police-office *(bureau de police)*. As theſe two did not ſit at the ſame time of the day, I went to the houſe of one of the municipal officers, a ſhoemaker, whom I found at work in his ſhop. He did not detain me a moment, when I ſhowed him the paſs I had from the French miniſter in Copenhagen. On ſhowing him the royal Daniſh paſs, he ſhook his head; as much as to ſay, That is of no uſe. His dreſs was not very fine, and yet he was the chief of the municipality. In all the other towns, in which there were barriers or turnpikes, I was only deſired to ſhow my paſs, which the officer never took out of my hands; but this was not the caſe in fortified or garriſoned places, where they examine them very attentively. Formerly they expected a ſmall *douceur* on theſe occaſions, which was ſtrictly forbidden by the laſt French proclamation; *rien de votre généroſité*. I am told they were very well ſatisfied with ten or twelve ſous.

"It is not very far from Valenciennes to Frejus, where the French gained a remarkable victory. Here I ſaw a ſmall monument, erected to the memory of General Dampierre. Douay lies farther off: a ſevere battle was fought there in the reign of Louis XIV.; and the French, in order to perpetuate the day, raiſed a monument on the road ſide, which conſiſted of a ſquare pyramid, about thirty feet high, inſerted in a ſquare pedeſtal, ornamented with pyramids of marble, in *bas relief*, with inſcriptions on each ſide. The pyramid is now ſtripped of all theſe ornaments, which were broken down or carried away. Some ſay that this was done by the Imperialiſts, who could not bear that the defeat of their anceſtors ſhould be thus held out to the view of every paſſenger. But others impute the dilapidation to Jacobins and terrorifts, who did not wiſh that even the ſplendid exploits of their fore-fathers,

fathers, under a monarch, ſhould be tranſmitted to poſterity.

" The French villages are inferior, in almoſt every reſpect, to thoſe of Belgium. Moſt of the houſes are built of common clay, and the little furniture betrays evident marks of poverty. Some of them, however, exhibit appearances of proſperity and eaſe. Beſides common corn, clover, horſe-beans, and walnuts are produced in abundance, from the kernels of which laſt they expreſs oil.

" I ſaw a great number of boys and girls in the fields, gathering in the harveſt; which led me to conclude, that thoſe who ought to have been employed in that taſk, were called to the field of battle. I obſerved that three-wheeled cars, or carts, were uſed inſtead of four-wheeled ones, which in general are very large, and ſometimes require from two to four, and even ſix, horſes to draw them; whilſt one or two horſes will pull a greater load in the former. But I muſt declare, that in no country with which I am acquainted, are the poor working horſes treated with greater cruelty than in France. There can be no doubt, that, where the ground is even, and the roads good, theſe three-wheeled waggons, or carts, ought to be preferred to thoſe with four wheels.

" The roads in this part of France are paved, like thoſe in Belgium. Some, however, are better than the highways in that country: though there are many hollows and rough parts in ſeveral places, and although the tolls are very high, all idea of repairing them ſeems to have been abandoned ſince the revolution.

" Bouchain is a very ſtrong fortification; for, by means of the well-placed and finely conſtructed ſluices, the greateſt part of the adjoining country can be inundated at pleaſure: ſo that it would be very difficult to beſiege or take this fortreſs, if well ſupplied with proviſions. As to the town itſelf, its mean buildings have fallen into ruins: the inhabitants ſeem to ſhare the ſame fate, for you meet with poverty in every quarter of it. Along the whole tract from Valenciennes to Paris there is a ſtratum of chalk-ſtone, which is uſed in decorating the caſt frames of the windows, doors, and gates; and, as you approach the capital, you meet with ſome houſes built entirely with this ſtone inſtead of bricks.

" Cambray is well fortified, and is furniſhed with a citadel. The city is well built, neat, and clean. Throughout the whole, you ſee the remains of wealth and proſperity, for which, no doubt, it is indebted to its famous manufactories of cambric. From Cambray the road runs through Bonavis, Fins, Peronne (which is fortified), Marche le Pot, Fonches, Roye, Conchy les Pots, Carilly, Gournay, Bois le Liheu, and Pont St. Maxenze.

" The French poſts are under very proper regulations. The horſes belong to the poſt-maſters themſelves, ſome of whom have near 120, a number of which are always in the ſtable; ſo that you are not detained a moment. The poſt-boy rides on one of the horſes, and goes at a ſmart trot over heights and hollows, rough places and ſmooth; and it is in vain either to entreat him to quicken or ſlacken his pace. This road is a great thoroughfare for carriages of every kind, and at every poſt-houſe there is a blackſmith's ſhop. As ſoon as you ſtop, thoſe ſons of Vulcan come out, and inquire if their aſſiſtance is wanted. The iron axle of my carriage happened to be broken by a ſtone on my way to Pont Maxenze. They were glad to hear of it, took it out, welded it together, and in about two hours I was enabled to reſume my journey. They aſked a louis-d'or, which was not unreaſonable; and it was ſo well done, that it has not failed ſince.

" From Pont Maxenze I preferred the road round Chantilly. Here I travelled through a fine grove of oak and beech, with much underwood of forward growth. This narrow way is bordered with lofty trees, whoſe ſpreading branches form the moſt agreeable and grateful ſhade, eſpecially from the noontide ſun.

" Chantilly belonged to the Prince of Condé, and is well known for the beauty of its architecture, and the enchanting walks and plantations, parks and pleaſure-grounds around it. The Jacobins have nearly demoliſhed the fine park walls, and cut down the trees which ſhaded the walks. All the internal decorations of the caſtle, the paintings, looking-glaſſes, tapeſtry, the valuable cabinet of natural hiſtory, li-

brary

brary and all, were plundered; ſo that the empty ſhell is all that remains of its former ſplendour. The mob cut and carried off the heads and arms of the ſtatues, which the Prince had been ſo many years in collecting. In many of the rooms are yet to be ſeen part of the ſmall cells, in which thoſe who were doomed to the guillotine were immured, during the bloody reign of the terroriſts.

"The roads begin to improve, as you approach Paris. The ſucceſſive proſpects on every ſide ſeem to vie with each other in richneſs and variety: they ſurpaſs whatever imagination can conceive. The mildneſs of the climate, groups of vineyards, highly cultivated orchards and kitchen-gardens, all contribute to render the ſcene delightful; and peaches, apples, pears, plums, cherries, and walnut-trees, flouriſh in the open fields in the greateſt abundance.

"From Chantilly I travelled through Luſarche, Echöuen, and St. Denis, and arrived in Paris in the afternoon of the 19th of Auguſt." *P.* 60.

COURSE OF STUDY IN THE POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL.

"THE Polytechnic School has two very large and fine chemical laboratories, beſides two of inferior extent, and ſome mechanical workſhops. The director and adminiſtrator have lodgings, at free coſt, in the ſchool.

"As a ſtranger, I have attended ſeveral lectures, among which was the analytic, by Lagrange. Whatever this great man ſays, deſerves the higheſt degree of conſideration; but he is too abſtract for youth. In the examination of theſe lectures, it has been found that he has diſcovered a new demonſtration of the firſt principles of the differential calculus; and his *Solution des Equations numériques, de tous les Degrés, Paris*, 1797, merits attention.

"I have heard Prony's hydraulic lectures, particularly on the motion of fluids through pipes, and on the undulation of water. This extraordinary man has the moſt impreſſive and captivating delivery which can poſſibly be conceived. In the courſe of the laſt year he printed a text-book of his lectures, containing theorems and problems relating to his ſubjects, and a ſketch or ſkeleton of the lectures themſelves. In the 7th year, Prony began a courſe, in which he propoſed to demonſtrate hydraulic theories in general. I have heard ſome of thoſe lectures, which were excellent; but I fear that few of his hearers (about twenty in all) will be able to keep pace with him.

"I have heard Fourcroy read on the fermentation of wines, and on the nature, quality, and preparation of alcohol. He made different experiments, to ſhow that the flame of burning alcohol contains a variety of colours, ſuch as purple, violet, and green; the laſt of which appeared on mixing with it a ſolution of vitriol of copper. Fourcroy's delivery is fine, orderly, and emphatic; but perhaps a little too rapid for ſome youths beginning the ſtudy. When he had finiſhed, he proceeded, in purſuance of a certain order, to examine from eight to ſixteen pupils.

"I have heard Haſenfratz lecture on electricity, lightning, and thunder. He concluded with an hiſtorical detail of all the ſyſtems of electricity; but paſſed over Symmer's theory, or the dualiſtic ſyſtem, entirely. He adopted the theory of Epinus, which was become prevalent in Paris. Hauy has ſince attacked the ſyſtem of Epinus, relative to electricity and magnetiſm. He denies that the peals or claps of thunder proceed from the electric ſpark, which flies from one cloud to another, and burſts or ſtrikes through the interjacent air, and inſiſts that it comes from a vacuum, produced by the condenſation of exhalations, which are converted into rain: if ſo, there never would be any peals or claps of thunder which would not be accompanied with rain. I have alſo heard Haſenfratz lecture on machines.

"The object of thoſe lectures ought to be whatever relates to machinery, practical mechanics, and the different modes by which the motions of the machines can be made to produce the different effects, ſo as to attain the object. I have not heard enough of thoſe lectures to enable me to ſay how far this object may be attained. Haſenfratz is deficient in delivery. Once in each decade he conducts his pupils to ſee the machines, the management of the manufactures, the rooms where the arts are carried on, and where mechanics work. I accompanied him in

one of his mechanical excurſions, which are exceedingly uſeful, and furniſh the pupils with ideas which they could not obtain in lecture-halls or libraries.

"It was peculiarly enacted, that each of the pupils ſhould have 1200 livres a year, but this was decreed in the times of the aſſignats; ſo that thoſe 1200 livres in paper yielded very little money; and notwithſtanding the aſſignats are called in, the pupils received little more than 200 livres a year, which amounted in the whole to 72,000 livres a year annually. The miniſter of the interior, in the 7th year, deſired the ſum of 394,133 franks, for the uſe of the Polytechnic School; and certainly the pains and expenſe of the government are well beſtowed on an inſtitution which will furniſh the ſtate with ſo many public ſervants and uſeful ſubjects." *P.* 104.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

"WAS formerly called *Jardin du Roi;* but received its preſent name by a decree of the National Convention of the 10th of June 1793. One end of it extends to the Seine: it conſiſts of a botanic garden, library for natural hiſtory, a menagerie, or collection of foreign animals, and an amphitheatre or lecture-room.

"The botanic garden which belongs to it is three hundred and twenty toiſes, or fathoms, long, and one hundred and ten in breadth. It is partitioned lengthways, that is, from its entrance down towards the Seine, by three very fine alleys; and interſected acroſs by various others, which terminate in the public *promenades* or walks. The different ſquare diviſions thus formed, are uſed for plantations, and are at preſent all encloſed with rail-work. The green-houſe and orangerie were formerly in pretty good order, and ſeparated into rooms and ſpaces: but a new green-houſe and orangerie are now additionally erected, and they are very conveniently diſpoſed. Here is a great abundance of foreign plants and trees, and from hence all the botanic gardens of the Central Schools are ſupplied with ſeeds and with trees as ſoon as they can be tranſplanted. From the ſame highly cultivated ſpot, the cultivators of land can procure economic and nurſery trees, and even the indigent poor can obtain plants when they can be ſpared.

"Captain Baudouin, in his travels into different parts of the world, had collected a great variety of natural curioſities; and preſented the whole to the nation, on condition that he ſhould be furniſhed with a ſhip to convey them to France. The Engliſh government conſented that this ſhip ſhould perform her voyage without moleſtation. Meanwhile the Engliſh had taken poſſeſſion of the iſland of Trinidad, where this extenſive and famous collection had been left. When Captain Baudouin arrived at Trinidad, in order to bring away his collection, the Engliſh would not give it up, on pretence that their government had conſented to the ſafety of the expedition by ſea, and not by land. However, this and the former expeditions were not altogether fruitleſs; for Baudouin has brought into the botanic garden about one thouſand different kinds of live plants, beſides aſſortments of ſeeds, and a conſiderable herbarium.

"The gallery for natural hiſtory is a building ſituated on the right hand, as you enter the botanic garden from the ſtreet. On the ſecond floor of this building are four large apartments, where fiſhes, birds, ſhells, inſects, minerals, earths, and ſtones are depoſited on ſhelves, furniſhed with glaſs fronts. The inner apartment is allotted to vegetables, and contains ſpecimens of trees, together with the herbarium of Tournefort.

"Vaillant preſented to the Muſeum a part of his birds. But ſeveral perſons, who had certain knowledge of the fact, aſſured me, that Vaillant reſerved for himſelf the moſt ſingular and curious.

"The gallery is open to the public the firſt, fourth, and ſeventh days of every decade, when it is crowded by all ſorts of people, who come there not for inſtruction, but merely to view the place, by way of amuſement. A certain number of veterans and invalids are then ſtationed in different places about the rooms, in order to ſee that the drawers are not broke open, or the curioſities in any manner injured or deſtroyed. Before this regulation took place, a diamond was ſtolen from thence, in the time of the revolution. Every ſecond, third, fifth, ſixth, eighth, and

and ninth days of the decade, this gallery is open for ſuch only as are deſirous of ſtudying natural hiſtory.

" The excellent Lacepede, who is not leſs kind and obliging than eminent for erudition, gave me a letter to Lucas, keeper of the gallery, who, with great civility, ſhowed me every thing that was curious and remarkable in this muſeum, and particularly the collection of quadrupeds, which is never exhibited to the public. Here I had a ſecond view of ſome ſingular objects, which I had ſeen at the Hague one and twenty years before, in the Stadtholder's collection, ſuch as the ſea-horſe, zebra, elephant, orang-outang, and a variety of monkeys. There are likewiſe to be ſeen in this muſeum, a lion, a tiger, a leopard, an uncommonly large dog from the Pyrenées, and a fine ſkeleton of a cameleopard, whoſe height from his fore-foot to the top of his crown is ſixteen feet.

" All theſe and many other quadrupeds, and ſome large birds, are exhibited to view in an apartment on the third floor, or rather on a part of the garret formed into an apartment. The remaining part of the floor has the appearance of a large hall; above are ſky-lights, and on each ſide are dens for wild beaſts." *P.* 148.

" Juſt below the entrance from the city into the botanical garden, and on the left hand, there is to be ſeen a plantation of trees and ſhrubs, which riſe up to a conſiderable height, and have a beautiful appearance. In this fine grove formerly ſtood, under a noble cedar of Libanon, a marble buſt of Linnæus, the Swediſh naturaliſt, and the inventor and founder of the modern ſyſtem of natural hiſtory. This buſt was deſtroyed at the time when the *peuple ſouverain* amuſed themſelves with ſpreading ruin and devaſtation. The cedar of Libanon, either by a cannon-ball or ſome other violence, then loſt its majeſtic top. Thoſe Vandals deſtroyed every memorial and monument, without any diſcrimination whatever. They even demoliſhed the tombs, and dug up the bodies of the moſt meritorious of their countrymen; not exempting that of the great Turenne himſelf, who had been, more than once, the deliverer of France. His ſacred remains, in which was ſtill viſible the wound of the cannon-ball by which he fell in the ſervice of his country, were treated by thoſe barbarians in the moſt inhuman and contemptible manner. The mortal part of that great general lay in the muſeum, ſhamefully expoſed among the ſkeletons of quadrupeds and birds; till it was removed by the orders of Francis de Neufchateau, and placed in an apartment of the amphitheatre, where it is ſet upright in a glaſs caſe.

" Before I take my leave of the Muſeum for Natural Hiſtory, I muſt obſerve, that it contains a great number of cheſts ſtill unpacked, which are full of curious objects brought hither from conquered countries. I have been told by men who had every opportunity of being well informed, that thoſe cheſts encloſe a collection as intereſting and extenſive as that already depoſited in the muſeum, in which there is no room for more objects without additional buildings." *P.* 158.

CAVES OF THE OBSERVATORY—CASSINI THE CELEBRATED ASTRONOMER.

" CASSINI went down with us to the caves of the obſervatory, which are very remarkable. The deſcent is by one hundred ſteps, to the depth of forty feet beneath the ſurface of the earth. The caves particularly conſiſt of ſeveral labyrinth paſſages of four feet in width, and five or ſix in height. In moſt places thoſe ſubterraneous paſſages are walled; but in ſeveral the natural ſtone or rock forms the ceiling, in ſome places the ſides, and in others the floor. Theſe caves are in general very dry, but in ſome places, either the ceiling or the floor are moiſt. In ſeveral parts of the ceiling, drops are cryſtallized into ſtone and ſtalactites, and the moiſture on the floor is covered with a ſtony ſcum or membrane. I have ſeen at Stevens's Cliff, Zealand, the water iſſuing in this manner out of a chalk rock, form a concretion, which ſeemed to be flint covering ſoft chalk.

" When Caſſini was director of the obſervatory, he cauſed two apartments to be conſtructed, and ſeparated from the labyrinth by a wall: one of theſe apartments was deſigned for obſerving the variation of the compaſs under ground. In the years 1783 and 1784, Caſſini found no ſenſible difference between the variation above and under

ground. See *De la Declinaiſon et des Variations de l'Aiguille aimantée, par Caſſini, à Paris, 1791, p. 24.*

"In the other apartment was a Reaumur's thermometer, made by Borry, under the direction of Lavoiſier.

"Every degree of this thermometer was four inches three lines. Caſſini made obſervations by it for three years, and found that the temperature of the earth, or heat of the air under ground, did not undergo a greater change than three tenths of a degree.

"Theſe labyrinth caves and large paſſages under ground, lead to a grate or iron door, from which there was, in ancient times, a communication with the quarries: but no man knows how far, or in what preciſe direction this paſſage extends. This grate was ſet up when the obſervatory was firſt built. In taking notice of it, Caſſini related to us ſome of his hiſtory in the time of the revolution, when his going regularly every day down to theſe caves, in order to obſerve the magnetic needle and thermometer, gave riſe to a rumour among the then ruling Jacobins and ſans-culottes, and which, as uſual, acquired in its propagation conſiderable alterations and additions. It was, in ſhort, concluded, that proviſions, arms, ammunition, and ariſtocrats were concealed in the caves of the obſervatory. One morning Caſſini was very early taken out of his bed, by three or four hundred Jacobins and ſans-culottes, armed with firelocks, ſwords, pikes, and cudgels, and forced half-naked to conduct them down to the caves of the obſervatory, in order to examine thoſe ſubterraneous receſſes. Caſſini told them that he obeyed them the more willingly, as he was certain the caves contained none of thoſe articles which they expected to find in them; yet he muſt tell them beforehand, that the caves of the obſervatory led to a faſtened iron door or grate, which opened into a hitherto unexplored ſubterraneous paſſage, which, for aught he knew, might communicate with places in the city; that he was totally unacquainted with thoſe paſſages, and of courſe could not be anſwerable for what might be found in them. Not half dreſſed, and ſurrounded with bayonets, ſwords, and pikes, he was obliged to conduct them through all the caves, and the inextricable windings and meanders of thoſe caves; and this brave band found them, as Caſſini had predicted, totally empty. They finally approached the iron door, which they found had been forced open, probably by ſome maſons and ſmiths belonging to the troop, while the reſt went in queſt of Caſſini. They demanded that he ſhould conduct them down into the ſubterraneous paſſages in the rock: but he reminded them of what he had before ſaid; adding, that he was perfectly in their power, but that he had rather ſuffer death on the ſpot, than conduct them down into thoſe unknown paſſages, for which he neither would nor could be anſwerable, and that he coolly waited for their deciſion, even if his death ſhould enſue. The moſt important among this corps then held a council of war, the reſult of which was, that Caſſini, guarded by ſix men armed with pikes, ſhould return to his apartments, and that the reſt ſhould go down into the paſſage or cavern. After they had proceeded a good way in, and found nothing, they became tired, returned back again, and ſpared the obſervatory for that time. But that edifice has ſince been often ſearched, and the inſtruments, aſtronomical conſtructions, and apartments of the aſtronomers very much injured by ſuch viſitations.

"C. Bouvard, though a ſtaunch and zealous republican, told me, that thoſe Vandals once took it into their heads to ſell the obſervatory, and actually wrote in large characters, over the door, *Propriété nationale à vendre**.

"The Caſſini, whom I have ſo often mentioned, began, in 1784, to improve the obſervatory, to procure new and ſuperior inſtruments, and to conduct the obſervations on a better and more accurate plan. He publiſhed yearly, from 1785 to 1791, a number or volume of his aſtronomical obſervations on the fixed ſtars, ſun, moon, and planets, calculated and compared with the beſt aſtronomical tables, in order to aſcertain and correct the errors of thoſe tables. He ſent thoſe numbers annually to other aſtronomers, and he had the goodneſs not to forget me. He did every thing, in ſhort, that could

* "National property to ſell."

be

be reaſonably expected from an able, induſtrious, and experienced aſtronomer.

"In the midſt of Caſſini's celebrated career, the revolution took place. Having been ſuſpected by the terroriſts, he was driven from the obſervatory, which he had ſo honourably conducted, and not only deprived of his office and income, but confined in priſon above a year; and he has ſaved nothing but his life, and a ſmall property, which he inherited from his anceſtors, where this worthy man, with his numerous family, exiſts upon a ſcanty income. In the opinion of ſome people, the ambition, envy, and egotiſm of certain other aſtronomers, have greatly contributed to drive both Caſſini and Jeaurat from the obſervatory." *P.* 235.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY,

"FORMERLY the King's Library, is ſituated in *Rue de la Loi*, formerly *Rue Richelieu*, oppoſite to the great Opera Houſe. The ſouth ſide faces the *Rue Neuve des petits Champs*, and its north ſide is in the *Rue Colbert*. The building of the library, with its appurtenances, is very large; its length in *Rue de la Loi* being no leſs than eighty-five toiſes, and its breadth between the two ſtreets above mentioned, twenty toiſes. In the court of the National Library is a fine ſtatue of bronze, repreſenting a woman ſtanding on one foot, in a very eaſy and natural attitude. The principal floor of the building, which ſurrounds this large court, is entirely filled with books, from the floor to the ceiling; it is ſurrounded by a ſlight gallery, from which one can reach the books on the upper ſhelves. At the windows, and in different parts of one of the wings, tables have been placed for the accommodation of readers. While the weather continued mild and fair, I always found from forty to ſixty perſons, ſome of them ladies, reading at thoſe tables. The library is open every day, except the decade days, from ten to two, for the accommodation of readers; but no books are lent out. For ſuch as only wiſh to ſee the library, it is open from ten to two, every third, ſixth, and ninth day of the decade.

"In a ſmall receſs of one of the four ſides of the library, is a group of about five feet in height and ſix in breadth, erected in the time of Louis XIV. It repreſents, as far as I could collect, Parnaſſus with Apollo and the Muſes, and ſeveral attributes applicable to the æra of that monarch. There are alſo in the library ſome buſts of celebrated French *literati*, and of others who have contributed to the improvement and augmentation of the library.

"In the other wing of the library, a very large perforation in the floor preſents two large globes, the celeſtial and the terreſtrial, which ſtand on the floor below, and their upper parts project above the floor of the library. Theſe globes are thirty feet in diameter: the meridians and horary circles are gilded. On the terreſtrial globe, the water is coloured blue, and the land white. Cities are painted with red and gold colours, and the mountains with a green ground, and ſhaded with brown. The ground colour of the celeſtial globe is a light blue, and the figures of the conſtellations of a darker blue; the fixed ſtars are inſerted according to their right aſcenſion, declination, and magnitude, and all very thickly gilt. Theſe globes are very well executed, and are the largeſt I have ever ſeen. They are a piece of art characteriſtic of the cloſe of the laſt century, when they were made, and when large globes were in great repute: but they are, in fact, nothing more than an aſtronomical luxury, a piece of ſcientific profuſion of no real effectual ſervice; though they muſt have coſt a very conſiderable ſum of money.

"Caperronnier, the preſent librarian, ſuppoſes the library to contain about 300,000 volumes. It is very incomplete in modern literature; for, ſince the year 1789, no new books have been added to it, not even French, and much leſs foreign productions. Of this laſt deſcription, ſeveral capital works ſeem wanting; ſo that in the midſt of this great opulence, a kind of literary penury is ſtill felt. The national and other libraries have received conſiderable augmentations from the libraries of monaſteries and emigrants. This is an eaſy and a very cheap method of increaſing a ſtock of books.

"The manuſcripts, to the number of 80,000, are in more retired apartments. The oriental manuſcripts are kept by Langlés; thoſe in Greek and Latin by Laporte Dutheil; and thoſe

in

in the modern languages by Legrande. The manuſcripts are divided agreeably to this claſſification, and are well arranged. Since theſe ſubjects are foreign to my ſphere of ſtudy, I ſhall only relate ſuch obſervations as I made, in a curſory manner. Here is a complete collection of Colbert's letters, in about ſixty volumes. A volume of letters, ſome in Engliſh and others in French, written by Henry VIII. of England, in a good, legible hand. A volume of letters from King Henry IV. of France to one of his miſtreſſes: his handwriting is tolerably neat and legible, and he has expreſſed himſelf with much vivacity and gallantry. To indicate the ardour of his amorous attachment, he ſays, '*Je vous aime plus, que vous 'aimez vous meme.*' I love you more than you love yourſelf. Here is a large collection of the French king's *heures*, or miſſals, all written very beautifully on the fineſt vellum, and embelliſhed with elegant borders and fine drawings, moſt of them ſcripture hiſtories. On every leaf of one of thoſe miſſals is a beautiful drawing of a flower, with its name in Latin and French, ſo that it forms a collection of botany as well as religion. Vanquiſhed Italy has been obliged to contribute her mite to the treaſury of the National Library; for all the moſt valuable printed books and the ſcarceſt manuſcripts have been taken from the Italian libraries. Among thoſe Italian manuſcripts, I particularly obſerved two Codices in parchment, a Terence, and a Horace, from the library of the Vatican. I am no hunter after various readings; yet it is poſſible that theſe Codices have no critical merit, but are remarkable only for their external beauty and excellent preſervation.

"Two rooms belonging to the library are filled with a large collection of prints, which are under the ſuperintendence of Joly. Some pieces are hung to the walls, but moſt of them are in port-folios and caſes. Here in particular is a collection of about ſixty volumes of prints of remarkable tranſactions and events in the hiſtory of France, arranged according to the year, or reign, down to the time of Louis XV." *P.* 271.

MEETINGS OF THE INSTITUTE—MERCURY FROZEN.

"AMONG the tranſactions of the meeting on the 11th Nivôſe, 7th year, or 31ſt of December 1798, I ſhall only mention the very remarkable experiments made on artificial cold by Fourcroy and Vauquelin. Theſe experiments, which were formerly made on a ſmall ſcale by Lowitz at Peterſburgh, have not only been repeated, but very conſiderably extended at Paris. Within a large tub was placed a ſmaller one, and the interval between them was filled with a mixture of ſnow and ſalt, which produced a remarkable degree of cold. Within the ſecond was placed a third, and the interval between the ſecond and third was filled with a compoſition conſiſting of eight parts of muriate of lime, and ſix parts of ſnow. In the inner tub was very ſoon produced an intenſe degree of cold, which ſunk the common thermometer of Reaumur to 32° below zero. In order to keep out the external warm air, the whole apparatus was covered with a glaſs caſe. By theſe intereſting experiments, 20lb. of mercury was made to freeze in thirty ſeconds into a ſolid maſs, which aſſumed a cryſtallized form*. Spirits of wine, the ſtrongeſt vinegar, nitric acid, pure ammonia, and æther, froze in like manner. A finger applied to this mixture or ſolution, in four ſeconds loſt all ſenſe of feeling, became frozen, and as white as paper, with a very acute ſenſation, reſembling a violent pinch. Moſt liquors froze, in a platina crucible, in thirty ſeconds; but, in a crucible of porcelain or clay, they required about two minutes, which is eaſily accounted for, from metals being more capable of conducting heat than clay.

"The atmoſpheric cold, when thoſe experiments were performed, was 7° by the centigrade thermometer, or 5, 6° of Reaumur's. Decimals being quite faſhionable in France, thermometers are uſed, in which the diſtance

* "In the Philoſophical Magazine, vol. iii. we have an account of 56lb. of mercury having been frozen in London, the ſame winter, by Meſſrs. Allan and Pepys, who produced the artificial cold by mixing muriate of lime with dry uncompreſſed ſnow.—*Tranſlator.*"

between

between the freezing and boiling points is divided into 100°, inſtead of Reaumur's diviſion into 80°. The Swedes have long uſed this diviſion, under the name of Celſius's, or Chriſtiernin's thermometer." *P.* 310.

THE AEROSTATIC SCHOOL AT MEUDON.

"THE Aeroſtatic School in Meudon was eſtabliſhed by a decree of the Committee of Public Safety, the 31ſt of October 1794. This ſeminary conſiſts of a director, ſub-director, a ſecretary, a magazine-keeper, and ſixty pupils, who are inſtructed in all that relates to the aeroſtatic ſcience, eſpecially ſuch parts of it as may be directed to military operations. There are two rooms ſet apart in the old caſtle for the conſtruction of the air-balloons, with all the apparatus neceſſary for that purpoſe. The pupils, with Conté the director, lodge in the new caſtle. M. Conté is an able phyſician as well as a chymiſt: he cannot be too highly praiſed for his unremitting attention to the regulations and management of the ſchool. He is well known for his inventions, ſuch as the aeroſtatic telegraph, and his factitious black-lead pencils, which are brought to ſuch a degree of perfection, as to rival the beſt in England: they are not prepared from the native ore, but a compoſition which conſiſts, as far as I have learned, of iron and ſulphur.

"The balloons in Meudon are made of a peculiar kind of thick taffety, wove for that purpoſe. When ſewed they are varniſhed over: ſo that the pores are cloſed in ſuch a manner as to prevent the evaporation of the gas in a very conſiderable degree, which is the reaſon that thoſe balloons hold the hydrogen, or inflammable air, many months; whilſt others that are not prepared in the ſame manner are found to be exhauſted in a few days. To the improvement of the gas, M. Conté has not a little contributed to the manner of filling the air-balloons. The mode is to erect a ſmall furnace, through which ſeveral large iron pipes paſs (commonly from four to ſix), which are filled with iron filings. The ends of theſe tubes extend out of the furnace, and are furniſhed with a cock, which may be opened or ſhut at pleaſure. A ſmaller tube is joined to the end of theſe pipes, and is then inſerted in the lid of the copper or veſſel, half filled with water, and ſo air-tight that the ſteam can only find its way through the red-hot tubes in the furnace. From the oppoſite end of theſe red-hot tubes, which run out of the furnace, a ſmall tube goes into the veſſel, which is filled with a ſolution of cauſtic lye, or alkali, and then it paſſes to the tube which conveys the hydrogen gas into the balloon.

"The whole apparatus, caldron, furnace, &c. may be erected and worked in two days. A balloon of about thirty feet diameter may be filled in two or three days. When a balloon of this ſize is newly filled, it will carry up a weight of 2000 pounds, and twenty men at leaſt. In two months it loſes ſo much by evaporation, that it will only bear 500 pounds, and ten men. I have ſeen the experiment tried in the Champ de Mars on the feaſt of the new year, in the 7th year of the republic. Such balloons are always found ready filled on the terrace at Meudon, where they ſtand in the open air without receiving any apparent injury, in conſequence of the peculiar texture of the taffety, and the excellence of the varniſh. The upper part was covered with a coat or caſe of fine leather, from whence the ropes deſcended, to which the car was attached. All theſe military balloons are tied together, and aeroſtatic ſoldiers taught to manage them.

"In mild or ſerene weather a number of theſe ſoldiers aſcend, always accompanied by an officer or ſubaltern. Two companies of aeroſtatic ſoldiers are always quartered at Meudon. Each conſiſts of one captain, two lieutenants, two ſergeants, two corporals, one drummer, and forty privates." *P.* 351.

IV. *Sketches of the State of Manners and Opinions in the French Republic*, towards the Cloſe of the eighteenth Century. In a Series of Letters. By HELEN MARIA WILLIAMS. 2 vols. 8vo. pp. 677. 12s.——*Robinſons.*

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EXTRACTS.

FRENCH MONUMENTS OF SCULPTURE, IN THE CONVENT OF THE AUGUSTINS.

"THE monaſtery where the monuments collected from the eccleſiaſtical domains, under the conſtituent and legiſlative aſſemblies, were depoſited, became the aſylum of thoſe more celebrated pieces which Jacobinical fury, during the reign of terror, had devoted to deſtruction, as emblems of feudality, and conſpiracies in favour of royalty. In the autumn of 1795, this depôt was, by a decree, erected into the muſeum of French monuments, under two points of view; that of hiſtory in general, and of the hiſtory of the art as far as it relates to France. The care of this muſeum has been confided to the antiquarian Lenoir, and he has ſhown no leſs knowledge in the arrangement of the monuments, than zeal in their preſervation. They are claſſed according to the reſpective ages in which they were executed, each in different apartments; and the antiquarian may ſpend his claſſic hours in meditating on Celtic altars erected under the reign of Tiberius, to Jupiter, by the trading navigators of Paris, and to Volcanos, and Erus, the Gallic god of war; or in poring over the ſtatues of Clovis, Pepin the Short, Charles the Bald, and Ermentrude his wife; or rambling with the connoiſſeur down the thirteenth, fourteenth, and ſucceeding centuries, until he pauſes at the ſtatue of Voltaire by Pigalli, and of Helvetius, Rouſſeau, Raynal, and the illuſtrious of our own times.

"The order, the art, and a kind of melancholy enchantment which reign through this muſeum, do honour to the taſte and knowledge of the diſtributor. In a vaſt ſepulchral apartment, the architecture of the age to which the ſculpture belongs, and the vault of which is fretted and ſown with ſtars, while a gloomy light penetrates through Gothic windows, repoſe the monuments of the firſt race of kings from Clovis to Charles Martel. On the left of this conqueror are ranged his deſcendants, down to Hugh Capet. The adminiſtrator has given this diviſion to the generic title of the thirteenth century, becauſe the liſt terminates with that age, though the vault contains the ſtatues of perſonages living in the beginning of the ſixth century.

"Time has committed conſiderable ravages on the moſt of theſe figures, but not ſo great as to conceal the ruder hand of the workman, and the degradation into which the arts had fallen during the Cimmerian night of the middle ages. The monuments of the thirteenth century betray the timidity of the artiſt, the ſervile copyiſt of the manner and dreſs of the times; but their ſtatues, at leaſt, have ſhape and figure. We find the monument of Philip the Bold, and his wife Iſabella of Arragon; a well-executed ſtatue of Lewis the Ninth, in ſtone, and another in marble of his brother Charles, placed on the throne of Sicily by Pope Clement the Fourth. It was the oppreſſion of this deſpot which drove his ſubjects into revolt, and which produced that dreadful maſſacre of the French, on the Eaſter of 1282, ſo well known by the name of the Sicilian veſpers; the horrible burſt of the heart ſwelling under oppreſſion, although our modern fanatics in philoſophy ignorantly place it to the account of ſuperſtition, and talk to us of Sicilian veſpers, when they would load it with its moſt heavy accuſation.

"The fourteenth century preſents us with the figures of Philip the Beautiful, Lewis the Mutinous, and Philip the Tall; of the Duke d'Alençon, killed at the battle of Creſſy, and of John the Good, made priſoner at the battle of Poictiers, and who died at London. The celebrated Conſtable, whoſe ſtatue has borne away the prize of ſculpture in the national exhibition of the preſent year, Bernard du Gueſclin, and his faithful companion in arms, the brave Sancerre, lie ſide by ſide.

More honoured still stands the marble statue of Charles, justly surnamed the Wise; during whose reign the arts and sciences were greatly cultivated. It was a favourite maxim with this prince, that arts and science could never be sufficiently honoured, and that the prosperity of a state depended chiefly on the encouragement they received. Charles the Wise laid the foundation of the present national library. The first stock consisted of twenty volumes, which were placed in one of the towers of the Louvre, called the tower of the library. The collection was certainly not considerable, but every thing must have a beginning, and books at that period were scarce.

"The fifteenth century presents but few specimens of progress in the art of sculpture, and fewer still of subjects whose remembrance was worth the preserving.

"The sixteenth century opens with the father of modern history, Philip de Commines, the cenotaph of whose monument is of singular beauty. The arts at this period began to throw aside their rude dress, and assume the tone and manner of a more advanced age. The statues of Lewis the Twelfth, the Well-beloved, and Anne of Bretagne, are frightful representations of death, boldly and finely executed. This superb monument had suffered most from the reign of terror. The twelve apostles, which ornamented the arcades, and the cardinal virtues, which group around the base of the monument, had lost some their arms, others their hands and noses, and some the savages had wantonly condemned to what they called the guillotine. Such of the scattered members as have been found are restored, and new ones are made to supply the place of those which were irretrievably lost.

"The sepulchral chapel of Francis the First had also passed under the reforming touch of the Jacobins. The statues of this prince, of Claude of France, his queen, larger than real life, are sublime in their execution, and discover profound knowledge of anatomy in the artist, whose name remains unknown. The roof of the chapel is composed by Gougeon, and it is probable that the statues were formed by the hand of this French Phidias, who was killed in the massacre of St. Bartholomew, and whose monument makes part of this century.

"The injuries done to the monument of Francis the First are perfectly repaired. Catharine de Medicis, and Diana of Poictiers, celebrated the one for her political crimes, and the other for her beauty and her gallantries, repose in the chapel of the Valois. The statue of the latter, in the attitude of supplication for her frailties, had not the power of exciting commiseration in the hearts of her Jacobin judges. The terrorists of Anet, which inherited from her beneficence, for there she dwelt in regal splendour, lifted against their benefactress the destroying axe. The statue of Henry the Fourth, in this class, is the truest resemblance of that prince extant; a fact which has been verified by the administrator, when in the violation of the royal dead at St. Denis, in 1793, the body of this prince was found entire, with the lineaments of the face unaltered, and perfectly corresponding with those of the statue.

"Among the monuments of the seventeenth century we dwell with sentiments of veneration on the statues of the philosophic historian De Thou; Descartes, whose sublime errors discovered to Newton the sublimer mechanism of the universe; Turenne, reposing in the arms of immortality, and whose remains, rescued from the barbaric proscription against the dead, were concealed for a while as a subject of natural history among the skeletons of monkies; Lebrun, the Apelles of the French school; Poussin, surnamed the Painter of philosophers and poets; Lesueur, the French Raphael; Corneille, La Fontaine, Racine, with others of inferior note, such as ministers and kings, Mazarin, Richlieu, and Lewis the Fourteenth.

"The eighteenth century presents us with the illustrious of our own times; the monuments and busts of Montesquieu, Fontenelle, Helvetius, Winckleman, Voltaire, Buffon, Rousseau, Diderot, Gluck, and Bailly, executed by Pigalli, and artists now living, together with the busts of Crebillon, Maupertuis, and the minister Fleury, whose dear delight was peace; the labours of Lemoine, Bouchardier, and Couston.

"These form a part of the multitude of pieces which compose this vast mu-

ſeum, the moſt diſtinguiſhed of which are claſſed according to their ages in different apartments, the light into which penetrates through windows formed of painted glaſs, after the deſigns of Raphael, Primatier, Albert Durer, Couſin, &c. which are alſo chronologically arranged from the origin of the art, each century of glaſs enlightening the ſame age of ſculpture. Although the muſeum is already extenſive, much remains to be added; many valuable ſpecimens of the arts being yet ſcattered throughout the departments. At Bourg en Breſſe are many curious tombs of the Houſe of Savoy; at Joinville thoſe of the Guiſes; in Brittany thoſe of the Dukes of Bretagne; at Moulins that of Montmorency; and in the ſouth-eaſtern departments, monuments of the Dukes of Burgundy. Various circumſtances have hitherto prevented the tranſlation of thoſe valuable objects; but meaſures are taken to reunite them in Paris, and complete this intereſting collection.

"A ſpacious monaſtery is the building beſt appropriated for the receptacle of theſe memorials. The gloom is congenial with our feelings, when we contemplate the mortality of ages; and correſponds with thoſe ſentiments of awe and veneration with which we view the relics of the illuſtrious dead. Among theſe cheriſhed memorials is the tomb of Eloiſa, on which is engraved her name, and that of Abelard. The abbey of the Paraclete, ſituated about four miles from Noguit, a town on the Seine, was the depoſitory of the remains of thoſe illuſtrious and unfortunate lovers. Their bones had been placed ſeparately under tomb-ſtones, by the ſide of each other, during two hundred years, in a cave ſo damp that their bodies were quite conſumed, but the bones remained in good preſervation. Madame de Ronci, who was abbeſs of the Paraclete, about twenty years ſince, cauſed them to be removed from their humid dwelling; and the vicar of the little village of Quinſy was charged with this pious ceremony. The abbeſs prepared a leaden coffin, about four feet long and one wide, for the reception of their relics.

"The remains of Abelard were placed at one end, and thoſe of Eloiſa at the other. A ſheet of lead, on which the vicar engraved their names, and which occupied both the height and breadth of the coffin, ſeparated their bones and aſhes within. He alſo inſcribed their names on two ſlips of thick parchment, wrapped up in ſeveral covers, which he depoſited in the coffin, ſo that if, in the lapſe of ages, the coffin was opened, it might be known to whom theſe bones belonged. This monument is now placed in the internal garden of the convent, which the adminiſtrator has converted into a kind of Elyſium, containing as many lugubrious objects as could well be arranged in ſo narrow a compaſs. Pines, cypreſſes, poplars, and weeping willows wave over, or hang mournfully around the tombs and ſtatues riſing from the greenſward; while buſts, inſcriptions, and cinerary urns, gloomily adorn the columns and ſurrounding arcades, where it may be ſaid,

'Black Melancholy ſits, and round her throws
'A deathlike ſilence and a dread repoſe'." *Vol.* i. *p.* 226.

BONAPARTE'S PASSAGE OF THE ALPS.

"BONAPARTE is now at Milan, at the head of an hundred thouſand men. The cavalry of the French army of reſerve, mounted on aſſes, and the old men and children who compoſe it, ſhouldering their wooden muſkets, were pleaſant ſtories enough to amuſe the vacant hours of the Auſtrian ſoldiers; and after the blunder of the court of Vienna, in miſtaking the deſire of peace, on the part of the republic, for the total incapacity of continuing the war, let the army of Melas be forgiven for their belief in the hiſtories of the long-eared cavalry and the wooden-gunned infantry of Dijon.

"That Melas ſhould alſo place ſome confidence in the fidelity of his truſty allies, the ſnows of St. Bernard, is natural enough; the ſnows did all the ſervice that could be expected from ſnows; but he ſhould have remembered that he and the mountain had to contend with an adverſary who never pauſed at any danger, or yielded to any obſtacle.

"It muſt indeed be admitted, that ſuch an expedition, in preſence of ſo formidable an enemy, could have been undertaken only by Bonaparte. It is ſcarcely poſſible, even for thoſe who have ſcaled theſe ramparts of the ancient world at peaceful leiſure, and at

favourable ſeaſons, to form any adequate idea of the difficulty of tranſporting an army with trains of artillery along paths where the wary traveller, at this ſeaſon of danger, heſitates where he ſhall point with ſecurity his next footſteps, while he looks around to ſee if no traitorous avalanche be on the watch.

"Few of the army, compoſed in great part of conſcripts, foreſaw the difficulties they had to encounter; and as it is ſcarcely neceſſary for Frenchmen to be ſoldiers, to feel the force of Metaſtaſio's obſervation,

'Non é ſapienza
'Ma follia di mortali
'L'arte crudel di preſagarſi i mali;'

they began this aſcent with alacrity, encouraged by the preſence and example of the Conſul.

"You will have ſeen accounts in the papers of the mode of dragging their artillery up the ſnows in the excavated trunks of trees; of the table ſpread with proviſions for the exhauſted ſoldiers on the ſummit, at the diſtribution of which the pious cenobites preſided, who inhabit theſe eternal regions of winter, and whoſe lives are ſpent in the ſevereſt acts of beneficence and uſefulneſs. In a letter written by a field officer, this laſt circumſtance is particularly mentioned. The impreſſion made on the mind of this officer by the meekneſs and admirable patience of thoſe meritorious fathers, leads him to the following apoſtrophe—'Sublime 'religion! the practice of which forms 'heroes, as its abuſes create monſters: 'of what a weight of crime are thoſe 'guilty who pervert thy eſſence!'—A ſingularly pious concluſion for the *etat-major* of a French atheiſtical army.

"The deſcent from this lofty point of the globe is more dangerous than the preceding part of the journey. A few horſes, unaccuſtomed to roads of ſuch ſingular conſtruction, fell down the precipices; and the length of the way was ſometimes abridged by the impatient ſoldiers, and their General in Chief, who found a ſpeedier way to the bottom than the uſual path, by gliding along the ſnows.

"The army had gained the valley of Aoſta, when the frowning impregnable poſt of Bard ſhut up the way. To have taken the fortreſs would have cauſed a loſs of ineſtimable time. To cut a paſſage in the adjacent mountain of Albardi was the work of three days: along that dangerous precipice, where none but goats had hitherto climbed, the cavalry, hanging themſelves to the points of rocks, to ſave themſelves from falling, dragged their horſes. From the ſummit of this mountain they pretended to diſcover the rock which Hannibal had pierced upwards of two thouſand years ago, and boaſt that, two thouſand years hence, their paſſage will be no leſs celebrated.

"Occupied by the ſiege of Genoa, and in puſhing the French back to their frontiers, it appears that the Auſtrian general had little time to reflect on the doctrine of poſſibles. The French were near the gates of Turin, and had filed off to Milan, before any ſerious oppoſition was made to their progreſs; and from private letters which I have ſeen, poſterior to that event, the paſſage into the Ciſalpine was ſo little interrupted, that ſcattered troops found no difficulty in rejoining the army, often carrying priſoners along with them.

"We can ſcarcely form a juſt eſtimate of the degree of welcome which a conquering army receives, ſince fear often wears the reſemblance of friendſhip. It appears, however, that the Piedmonteſe have been unequivocal in their demonſtrations of hatred againſt the Auſtrian regime. A young officer of my acquaintance, with twenty-four ſoldiers, made one hundred and fifty Auſtrian priſoners in their route to join the army; that is, carried one hundred and fifty Auſtrian ſoldiers with them to the adjacent town. The French took up their lodgings in a convent of nuns. The Auſtrian commander of the adjacent poſt, apprized of the capture, and of the inſufficient force of the French, ſent part of a regiment of cavalry to reſcue the priſoners, and take the captors. The priſoners were retaken; but the French were not to be found. The Jacobin nuns had concealed the republicans in their cells, where the Auſtrians, reſpecting an aſylum ſo ſacred, did not preſume to penetrate." *Vol.* ii. *p.* 142.

EGYPTIAN MONUMENTS.

"NOTWITHSTANDING the variety of great and ſingular events in the modern world, which powerfully rivet our

our attention, I have lately made an excurſion to the ancient world, and wandered amidſt mauſoleums, temples, palaces, and cities, which boaſt an origin, I am told, almoſt coeval with the hiſtorical account of its creation. You will readily ſuppoſe that I refer you to Upper Egypt, and its everlaſting monuments; of which, if phyſical impoſſibility has hindered the transfer into France, this country, and from hence the reſt of the world, will be ſoon enriched with the moſt ſcientific and luminous deſcription.

"Accuſtomed of late to gaze with admiration on the accumulated treaſures of Grecian ſculpture, which at preſent decorate the muſeum of Paris; the Apollo of Belvidere, which furniſhes the higheſt conception of majeſtic beauty; the Venus of the Capitol, the rival ſiſter of the Medicis, like a roſe half opening with the twilight of a beautiful morning, and ſhrinking from the beams of the riſing ſun; the ſublime and affecting group of the Laocoon, delivered up to the moſt cruel agonies which can be felt by human nature, and which the great poet who painted the hiſtory, probably from theſe ſtatues, ſeems to have ſketched but imperfectly, compared with this model; accuſtomed to dwell with delight on theſe monuments of exquiſite art, which have embodied the faireſt ideas of the beautiful and ſublime, and which have been tranſmitted to us through ſo many proſtrate ages; I had heard of ibiſes, apiſes, crocodiles, and hieroglyphics, with nearly the ſame indifference and the ſame prejudice as the Greeks themſelves, who boaſted of their ſelf-creation, and conſidered all other nations antecedent and cotemporary as barbarians.

"Whatever other advantages have accrued, or ſhall hereafter accrue to the world from the expedition of the French into Egypt, that enterpriſe will at leaſt produce an intimate and entire acquaintance with all that is ſtill in the poſſeſſion of this eldeſt daughter of the civilized globe; who, leaving to her younger ſiſters the merit of ſuperior taſte and perfection, of which ſhe herſelf furniſhed the models, preſents the rich relics of her early days in thoſe ſtupendous works, which, according to the poet, wearying time with their indeſtructibility, will outlive, by the ſolidity of their maſs, the more beautiful, more modern, yet leſs durable, objects of exquiſite deſign and finiſhed workmanſhip.

"It has been obſerved, that the Egyptians ſacrificed to every divinity but the graces. The graces, indeed, do not ſit paramount in any of their works; their natural port, to borrow an expreſſion from the critic of Paradiſe Loſt, is gigantic loftineſs; and if they do not pleaſe when pleaſure is required, they never fail to aſtoniſh. Religion and ſcience appear to have been the firſt objects of Egyptian cultivation. Their monuments atteſt, according to theſe republican artiſts, that every thing in that country was made for gods and for kings. Five immenſe palaces and more than thirty temples, ſtill ſubſiſt. A temple was nothing but a great book opened to their reſpect and adoration; every place was conſecrated to worſhip, and covered without and within with ſacred tablets and religious inſcriptions. Whenever the pious Egyptian ſtood within theſe holy precincts, he was ſurrounded by images, or repreſentations of the attributes of his divinities, while the dim religious light thrown acroſs theſe immenſe maſſes, animated his feelings of devotion by thoſe of awe and terror.

"The ceilings of two of thoſe temples of more recent conſtruction are decorated by zodiacs, repreſenting the heavens as they appeared four thouſand eight hundred years from the preſent time. In ancient Egypt knowledge and religion ſeem to have been in uniſon; knowledge, not ignorance, was there the mother of devotion. Whatever other ſciences were cultivated, aſtronomy ſeems to have held the firſt place: on the porticos of every temple were inſcribed aſtronomical objects, as if reſpect for that ſublime ſcience was inculcated as a neceſſary preparation for performing aright the duties of religion.

"The French artiſts boaſt that no former traveller had obſerved in the architecture of the Egyptians, the reſemblance of the columns with the different productions of nature, which have been followed in the minuteſt details. The leaves of the nymphea circulate around the baſe; the part near the capital takes the form of a ſheaf of the lotus, while in capitals of ten different ſorts, the bud of this latter plant, the head of the date-tree, the branches

branches of the doum, and the flowers of the nelumbo, mingle together.

"In their various ſtyles, it is eaſy to perceive the points of conformity between the architecture of the Egyptians and the Greeks, who, whilſt they borrowed, contrary to the opinion of the Roman architect, the forms, perfected them by the elegance of proportions, the grace of the details, and the beauty and harmony of the whole. The great characteriſtic of Egyptian architecture is maſs and ſolidity; and indeſtructibility is the idea which captivates the mind, while the eye fixes itſelf with aſtoniſhment on the ponderous edifice." *Vol.* ii. *p.* 165.

V. *Memoirs of Angelus Politianus, Actius Sincerus Sannazarius, Petrus Bembus, Hieronymus Fracaſtorius, Marcus Antonius Flaminius, and the Amalthei.* Tranſlations from their poetical Works: and Notes and Obſervations concerning other literary Characters of the fifteenth and ſixteenth Centuries. By the Rev. W. Parr Greswell, Curate of Denton in Lancaſhire.—Small 8vo. 5s. Mancheſter printed; *Cadell and Davies*, London.

EXTRACTS.

POLITIAN'S LITERARY LABOURS.

"THE labours of Politian on the pandects of Juſtinian, his collations and corrections of claſſic authors, and the leſs voluminous pieces that are contained in his works, are laſting monuments of his erudition and induſtry. But his confidence in his own powers ſeems to have been unbounded; and his mind, full of ambition, and inflamed with an ardent thirſt for literary glory.—'I have ever 'been actuated,' ſays he, 'perhaps 'without juſt grounds; but I have 'ever been actuated by a deſire of pro-'ducing ſomething that may immorta-'lize me. Riches, preferments, power, 'and pleaſure, are trifles in my eſtima-'tion, compared with a name and re-'putation, which ſhall ſurvive to the 'lateſt poſterity.'

"Far, therefore, from reſting ſatisfied with what he had already achieved in the *arena* of literature, he conſidered his paſt works merely as preludes to others of greater magnitude. The letters he addreſſed to Matteo Corvino, king of Hungary; and Don Juan, king of Portugal, may be adduced as teſtimonies of the truth of this remark.—To the former, after extolling his magnificence, and the ſplendid actions which had diſtinguiſhed his reign, and teſtifying his own deſire to employ thoſe talents which nature had given him in celebrating them, he thus proceeds: 'Who I 'am, or what degree of eminence I 'poſſeſs among the learned, modeſty 'induces me to wiſh your Majeſty 'ſhould learn from the information of 'others, rather than from myſelf.—'Suffice it to ſay, that by the kindneſs 'and liberality of Lorenzo de' Medici, 'a perſon diſtinguiſhed for his ſuperla-'tive talents, and among the warmeſt 'admirers of your virtues, I have been 'raiſed from an obſcure birth, and 'humble fortune, to the degree of 'rank and diſtinction I now enjoy; 'without any other recommendation 'than my literary qualifications. I 'have for a ſeries of years publicly 'taught at Florence, not only the La-'tin language with univerſal applauſe, 'but likewiſe the Greek, with a repu-'tation equal to that of the natives of 'Greece; which I may venture to 'affirm, has been the caſe with no 'other of the Italians, for a thouſand 'years paſt.—My pen has been em-'ployed on a variety of ſubjects; and, 'if I may be permitted the mention of 'a fact generally known, has procured 'me the commendations of almoſt all 'the learned of the age. Thus, pre-'ſuming on your royal indulgence, I 'venture to ſtate my pretenſions, with 'a frankneſs that is unuſual, and may 'poſſibly ſubject me to cenſure; but 'nevertheleſs with that truth, which 'alone can apologize for my freedom. 'If this tender of my ſervices meet 'with acceptance, I ſhall be proud to 'exert what abilities I poſſeſs, in any 'way your wiſdom may condeſcend to 'preſcribe: and with a zeal, which I 'flatter myſelf may entitle me to your 'royal favour.—Deign then to put my 'obedience to the teſt, by honouring 'me with your commands: or at leaſt 'condeſcend to admit of my voluntary 'exertions, on ſuch topics as my own 'fancy may deem moſt agreeable to 'you. Your Majeſty is at preſent en-'gaged

'gaged in founding a library, at once 'magnificent, and richly furniſhed with 'books: I can, as occaſion may re- 'quire, employ my pen in tranſlations 'from the Greek language into the 'Latin;—or in original compoſitions, 'which may not prove unworthy the 'attention of men of letters. You are 'erecting a palace of unequalled gran- 'deur, and adorning your capital with 'ſtatues of braſs and marble. The 'moſt eminent artiſts are continually 'engaged in ſupplying you with ex- 'quiſite paintings, and other works of 'art. Theſe, the Muſe of Politian can 'celebrate, if it be your royal pleaſure, 'in numbers not unworthy of ſuch ſub- 'jects.—He flatters himſelf he is not 'unſkilled in the art of tranſmitting to 'future ages, the events of your Ma- 'jeſty's reign, in war or peace, by the 'well-connected page of hiſtory;—and 'in the language of Greece or Rome, 'in the flowing periods of proſe, or 'the ſublime diction of immortal ſong, 'of recording your praiſe to the lateſt 'poſterity.'

"His letter to the king of Portugal is compoſed of ſimilar materials:—praiſe of that monarch, and a diſplay of his own powers. He requeſts to be appointed his hiſtoriographer; and to be favoured with a tranſcript of the annals of his reign, compoſed in any language, and without regard to accuracy of ſtyle; to ſerve merely as a baſis for his own intended work. On this, he promiſes to erect ſuch a ſuperſtructure, as ſhall be able to withſtand the viciſſitudes of fortune and the waſte of ages.—The offer of Politian was accepted; and the Portugueſe monarch, in his anſwer, engages to furniſh him with the requiſite documents as ſoon as poſſible.

"Politian could not, however, eſcape the cenſures of perverſe or invidious critics. By ſome he was accuſed of plagiariſm. Others, while they were conſtrained to acknowledge his erudition, found fault with his ſtyle; and termed him a 'mere *ſolderer* of obſolete 'words.' To the latter charge, Politian anſwers in general, 'I have never 'ventured to introduce into my com- 'poſition any terms,

'*Cinctutis non exaudita Cethegis:*

'nor do I follow any, but the beſt au- 'thorities. But I am not one of thoſe, 'who would ſuffer the Latin language 'to ſink, in a great meaſure, into ob- 'livion, through a ſilly fear of employ- 'ing any word, or form of expreſſion, 'which has not hitherto been in gene- 'ral uſe.' To Bartholemæus Scala in particular, he replies, '*Si quæ cuique 'obvia ſint, ea tantum noſter ſermo re- 'cipiat: nullâ magis quam tabellionum 'linguâ utemur:*' alluding ſarcaſtically to Scala's office of ſecretary to the republic.

"The inquiſitive reader will be much gratified with the peruſal of the original letters of theſe learned diſputants; and not leſs with thoſe of a more friendly deſcription, which paſſed between Politian and Paulus Cortefius. Politian, on this occaſion, expreſſes his diſlike of ſervile imitation, and aſſerts his own claim to the merit of originality, in terms to the following effect: 'I hear you approve of no ſtyle 'of compoſition, the language and 'periods of which are not perfectly 'Ciceronian (*niſi qui lineamenta Cice- 'ronis effingat*). For my own part, I 'find the countenance of a bull, or a 'lion, infinitely leſs contemptible than 'that of an ape; though the latter has 'more reſemblance of the human ſpe- 'cies. Even of thoſe authors who 'rank higheſt for eloquence, each has 'a ſtyle peculiar to himſelf, as Seneca 'remarks. Quintilian indulges a very 'juſt pleaſantry, at the expenſe of cer- 'tain perſons, who fancied themſelves 'nearly related to Cicero, becauſe they 'had contrived to round a period with 'the words, "*eſſe videatur.*" You 'know how Horace exclaims againſt 'the ſervile herd of imitators. In my 'eſtimation, they reſemble parrots, or 'daws; that are taught to articulate 'words, of which they know not the 'meaning.—The compoſitions of ſuch 'perſons are without animation or 'energy, and diſplay neither feeling 'nor genius: they are replete with 'dulneis and inſipidity, as void of 'meaning, as they are deſtitute of true 'taſte. "Your ſtyle is not that of 'Cicero," it may be ſaid.—Perhaps 'not, nor am I Cicero:—but I appre- 'hend my ſtyle is my own.'

"That Politian had, occaſionally, eccleſiaſtical duties of an active nature to diſcharge, appears from his own account. He accuſes himſelf of a natural propenſity to indolence. He alſo laments the miſapplication of much of his

his time, which he was compelled to beſtow on trifles, and in ſatisfying the petty requeſts of the impertinent and obtruſive. 'Does any want a motto 'for the hilt of his ſword, or a poſy 'for a ring; a memento for his bed-'chamber, or a device for his ſilver 'veſſels, or even his earthen-ware; all 'run to Politian: ſo that there is 'ſcarcely a wall which I have not, 'like a ſnail, beſmeared with the effu-'ſions of my brain. One teaſes me 'for catches and glees for a bacchana-'lian party: another for a grave diſ-'courſe, adapted to ſome particular 'ſolemnity; a third wants a lament-'able ditty for a ſerenade; and a 'fourth a licentious ballad for a car-'nival. This fool tells me his love-'perplexities, which I ſit like a fool to 'hear. Another wiſhes for a ſymbol, 'which, while it is perfectly intelli-'gible to his miſtreſs, may ſerve only 'to perplex the curioſity of others. I 'paſs by the unſeaſonable garrulity of 'pedants; the impertinences of *poet-'aſters*, who are in the conſtant habit 'of admiring their own productions. 'Theſe are the plagues I am daily 'compelled to endure; beſides the in-'terruptions I meet with in my walks 'abroad, from the lower claſs of the 'inhabitants of this city, and its vici-'nity, who drag me through the ſtreets, 'on their concerns, *like an ox by the noſe*.'

"If we may credit Politian's account of himſelf, it at leaſt evinces good nature and urbanity of temper on his part; ill accord'g with thoſe ſtories which charge him with a peeviſhneſs of diſpoſition that correſponded with his perſonal deformities. The internal evidence of his letters tends to prove, that he was naturally inclined to facetiouſneſs and pleaſantry; and capable of malignant irraſcibility only when his literary talents and reputation were called in queſtion. A vein of humour pervades the greater part of his epiſtolary correſpondence: and it ſeems improbable that he would chooſe to aſſume a character in his familiar writings which his perſonal behaviour did not in ſome meaſure ſupport." *P.* 50.

FABIUS URSINUS, A YOUNG LITERARY PRODIGY.

Angelus Politianus to Picus of Mirandula.

"I SINCERELY wish you had been of our party to-day, at the table of Paulus Urſinus, who is a gentleman not only of diſtinguiſhed military celebrity, but partial to letters, and literary ſociety. He has a child of the name of Fabius, a youth of eleven years of age, of ſingular beauty and endowments. His fine auburn hair falls gracefully on his ſhoulders. He has an eye ſparkling with intelligence, an open countenance, a perſon elegantly formed, and a moſt graceful carriage, which inclines a little to the military. When the party had taken their ſeats, this child was deſired to accompany ſome perſons of ſkill, in ſinging ſeveral airs ſet to muſic; which he did with ſo melodious a voice, that for my own part I liſtened with ecſtacy. He afterwards recited an heroic poem in praiſe of my pupil Piero de Medici, of his own compoſing: for that it really was ſo, and not the work of another (as I at firſt ſuſpected), I had afterwards an opportunity of aſcertaining by indubitable evidence. And what kind of a compoſition do you think it was? Really ſuch an one as I myſelf ſhould not need to be aſhamed of. His tones were not merely thoſe proper to reading, nor altogether modulated as in ſinging; but formed by a pleaſing inflection of voice between both. As the ſubject required, they were uniform or varied, with exact regard to connexion and pauſe;—acute or grave;—eaſy or emphatical;—quick or ſlow: yet always correct,—always diſtinct,—always agreeable. His action was neither indolent and unanimated, nor yet bold and forward: you would have vowed another little Roſcius ſtood before you. He was ſuddenly requeſted to turn the verſe into proſe, and repeat the ſame thoughts unconfined by meaſure. Accordingly, after a ſhort interval of conſideration, he began again, in a manner perfectly unaſſuming; and I was aſtoniſhed to hear from his youthful lips, a flow of expreſſion ſo ſelect and appropriate, as the pen ſeldom ſupplies. Are you already ſurpriſed? You will be ſtill more ſo with what followed. The boy had completed this taſk, and was ordered to take his food ſtanding; for ſuch is his conſtant cuſtom. After the firſt remove, I was requeſted to propoſe ſubjects to him for epiſtolary compoſition;—as many as I pleaſed;—on which he was to dictate, extempore, to ſeveral amanuenſes at once. I mentioned only

only five: not willing to bear too hard upon the child; though he engagingly inſiſted on more. But the ſubjects I ſelected on this occaſion, were of a nature ſo various and novel, and ſome of them ſo ludicrous, that I am convinced he could not have been previouſly prepared for them. Immediately five perſons, with pens, ink, and paper, placed themſelves in order, to write as he ſhould dictate. The boy, ſtanding in a conſpicuous ſituation, fixes his eyes modeſtly on the ground, and pauſes a moment; then raiſing his head, dictates a few words to the perſon who ſits higheſt; makes a ſign to the ſecond, and gives him inſtructions on a different ſubject; and proceeds in like manner with the reſt, down to the loweſt: then returning to the firſt, ſo fills up every chaſm, and connects the ſuſpended thread of his argument, that nothing appears diſcordant or diſjointed; and at the ſame inſtant, who would have thought it? he finiſhes the five letters. Afterwards we rode out to ſee the combatants in the *Gioſtra*; and amongſt them Piero de Medici my charge. On this occaſion an accident happened that greatly diſcompoſed me; but on reflection, ſerved to confirm me in the belief that this was no ordinary child. Young Fabius was carried by a beautiful and ſpirited palfrey, of which he is uncommonly fond: on this he bounded over the field, and expatiated at pleaſure; now urging it to full ſpeed; now wheeling about, with as much dexterity as ſpirit. He happened to be near me, liſtening with eagerneſs to my literary bagatelles, which had deeply arreſted his attention; when, on a ſudden his horſe ſtumbling againſt an impediment in the way, came down upon his young rider. The child uttered a ſhriek. The ſervants haſtened with all ſpeed, each eager to relieve him in this alarming criſis: one of whom, diſmounting too precipitately, unfortunately fractured his leg. All was alarm and confuſion: for my own part, I remained ſtupified with horror. The father arrives, admoniſhes the child not to be alarmed; the latter no ſooner perceived him to be preſent, than, which I conſidered as a ſtrong proof of a noble ſpirit, he entirely ceaſed all complaints and exclamations; and only requeſted they would proceed with gentleneſs and caution, leſt the horſe, in the violence of his efforts to riſe, ſhould injure him more ſeverely. The girths were cut as the creature lay, and young Fabius was at length drawn from under him, and reſtored in ſafety to his trembling friends; but ſo chafed with the accident, that it became adviſable to convey him home. For my own part, I found my ſpirits ſo much fluttered, that I left the ſpectacle and came home alſo; ſcarcely able to perſuade myſelf that the child was ſafe; and terrified almoſt to death with the impreſſion this alarming circumſtance had made on my mind.

"Such is one day's hiſtory of young Fabius Urſinus: who, if he lives to complete the meaſure of his days (which God grant he may), and perſeveres in the path of renown, as he has begun, will, I venture to predict, prove ſuch a perſon as the preſent age glories in conſidering you; that is to ſay, one whom, for his admirable qualities and attainments, mankind muſt unite to venerate as ſomething more than human. Adieu." *P.* 84.

VI. *Various Thoughts on Politics, Morality, and Literature.* By W. BURDON, A.M. formerly Fellow of Emanuel College, Cambridge. 8vo. pp. 186. 3s. 6d. Newcaſtle upon Tyne printed; *Weſt and Hughes, Clarke*, New Bond Street, London.

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Raleigh, Drayton, Drummond, &c. ——Thoughts inſerted in the Cambridge Intelligencer.

EXTRACTS.

" THOUGH in my attack on the 'Purſuits of Literature' I had intended principally to convey my own thoughts on a greater variety of ſubjects than any other ſingle opportunity afforded; yet my attention not being fully underſtood, has injured the ſale of my book, and prevented that extenſive circulation which all opinions deſerve relating to the peace and happineſs of mankind: on this account I have been induced to alter my deſign, and leave the blunders, the quotations, the egotiſm, the impudence, and malevolence of the 'Purſuits of Literature,' in that oblivion to which the public ſeems now to have conſigned that book and its anonymous author, and to make no further uſe of him, than as the means of conveying my ſentiments on many important topics, on which we moſt completely and eſſentially differ." *P.* 1.

AKENSIDE.

" 'I WILL add here, that if any '*young* man of genius, claſſical learn-'ing, and poetical ardour, would pre-'ſent the world with a Greek tranſla-'tion of Akenſide's "*Hymn to the* '*Naiads*," and ſubmit it to the cor-'rection of an experienced Greek ſcho-'lar before publication, he might eſta-'bliſh a learned and honourable repu-'tation for himſelf, and add another 'compoſition worthy of Homer or 'Callimachus.' p. 191. Yet they had better let the Hymn to the Naiads alone; it is Greek already, in its mythology, its imagery, and turn of ſentiment. A poem of more beautiful expreſſion, more exquiſite delicacy of feeling, and more harmonious meaſure, does not exiſt in our language, the Lycidas of Milton alone excepted: yet one of theſe, the unfeeling Johnſon has coarſely derided, and the other he has paſſed by in ſilence. To ſay that a tranſlation of the Hymn to the Naiads might reſemble Homer or Callimachus indifferently, is to ſay, that theſe two poets are like each other: they have both written hymns to the gods, it is true, but in a very different ſtyle; ſo that their reſemblance is pretty much the ſame as Fluellen's compariſon between Alexander and Harry of Monmouth. (Vide Henry V.) In the firſt place, their language is different; for though the Greek language has changed leſs than any other in the ſame ſpace of time, yet 700 years will make great alterations in any language, and this was nearly the ſpace between theſe two poets. They are both admirable in their kind, yet no more like each other than an old man and a man in the vigour of youth. Homer is diffuſely narrative, ſimple, familiar, deſcriptive, and ſometimes tedious; Callimachus is conciſely ſublime, forcible, pathetic, artificial, and impreſſive; and whoever wiſhes to be convinced of this, need only read the two hymns which they have written moſt nearly on the ſame ſubject; that of Homer to Apollo, and thoſe of Callimachus to Apollo and Delos: Homer ſings the hiſtory of the god, Callimachus his praiſes; the one is all nature, the other all art: ſo much for their reſemblance. Akenſide is like neither of them exactly; he has more ſentiment than Homer, and leſs ſublimity than Callimachus; his compound epithets he has borrowed from the Greeks, but his are leſs expreſſive than theirs; in harmony of numbers he is little their inferior, but in elegant and appropriate diction he is below them, inaſmuch as Greek is inferior to Engliſh: for his uſe of heathen mythology, he has been blamed by many taſteleſs lovers of propriety, who forget that the names of the heathen deities are but names for the properties of human nature, or the operations of the univerſe. Akenſide has neither the conciſe ſublimity of Callimachus, nor the pleaſing prolixity of Homer: he ſings of humbler deities than they did, and his ſtrain is ſuited to his ſubject: as the Naiads are the ſources of health, decency, and comfort, the ſtyle in which he celebrates their praiſes is pure, equable, and elegant, leſs ſimple than Homer, yet more humble than Callimachus. The other works of this author are all admirable, but his Pleaſures of Imagination is that on which his fame principally depends; it is one of the fineſt poems in our language, not merely in its poetical execution, but in its moral tendency: it is meant to exalt the finer feelings of the ſoul to the perception of moral pleaſure, and lead them from taſte to virtue.

virtue. The ſublime and refined ſyſtem of Plato is the ſource of the author's ſentiments; but they are arrayed in charms which even Plato failed to give them; and had he lived to ſee them ſo adorned, he muſt, in this inſtance at leaſt, have relaxed his ſeverity againſt poets. It conveys, in every line, the moſt refined and exalted ideas; it glows throughout with the love of elegance, proportion, and harmony; yet all theſe are ſubſervient to the ſentiments of virtue and liberty. Whether his ſyſtem is true or not, I will not venture to decide; that it is grand and beautiful, no one will deny: to me it ſeems that imagination has added to the charms of truth, and deduced it from an origin, at leaſt doubtful, yet certainly ſublime. Though this great poet was my townſman, I have frequently attempted, without ſucceſs, to acquire ſome information of his early hiſtory; nothing more is known of him than Johnſon and Hawkins have related, and one anecdote which the diligent hiſtorian of our native town has recorded, in his Remarks on popular Antiquities. That, after him, I have failed to acquire any thing new on a ſubject on which he appears to have taken much pains, is not to be wondered: the truth is, our poet was little thought of in his own town; he left it early; for poetry and commerce have no connexion: and after he had left it, his friends probably thought no more of him; they were low people, and could not be ſuppoſed able to appreciate his worth: yet he has left a name behind him which has illuſtrated the place of his birth, and put to ſhame his dull cotemporaries; for of all thoſe who inhabited the town in his lifetime, perhaps not one is now remembered. Such is the pre-eminence which genius can beſtow." *P.* 18.

THE UNIVERSITIES.

"'THIS is the warning voice which 'ſhould be heard, and heard aloud in 'aſſemblies frequent and full, in all 'churches and in all cathedrals; but 'chief in thoſe twin-ſiſters of learning, 'the univerſities of England, Oxford 'and Cambridge, which can be ſup-'ported on thoſe principles alone, on 'which they were founded, and by 'which they have flouriſhed.' p. 192. As the univerſities were founded on Roman Catholic principles, and have ſince been adapted to a Proteſtant eſtabliſhment, it is to be hoped they will ſtill keep pace with the ſpirit of the times, and be ready to accede to whatever change the ſtate, in its wiſdom, may think beſt ſuited for the increaſe of virtue and happineſs: whenever that time comes, I have no doubt its reverend teachers will yield, with that due ſubmiſſion which becomes Chriſtian miniſters, to the will of the ſuperior powers. No one will deny, that the defects of our two univerſities, as places of education for public life, are many and great; yet notwithſtanding the unrefuted remonſtrances of individuals, they ſtill remain unreformed, owing to that dread of innovation which has poſſeſſed all the privileged claſſes of ſociety, and blinded them to their true intereſt. The evils complained of have been frequently enumerated; I will not attempt to do more than repeat them; yet every revival of the ſubject may make it more evident. In places where great numbers of young men, in the heat and vigour of youth, are collected together, it is almoſt impoſſible to prevent ſome irregularities, and many follies. Yet ſtill it behoves thoſe who are concerned in their education, to leſſen, as much as poſſible, the temptations to vice, to correct the effects of the more dangerous paſſions, and to ſtrengthen the motives to moral and intellectual improvement; yet inſtead of this, a bundle of obſolete ſtatutes ſupplies the place of effective regulations; the means of inſtruction are few, and the temptations to idleneſs are many and frequent: frivolous ceremonies are more regarded than moral duties, wealth and rank are more honoured than virtue and knowledge. The want of public examinations is ſeverely felt in many colleges, for they are the only means of bringing forth what young men know, and the beſt inducement to add to their ſtores; but theſe examinations ſhould be ſuited to all capacities, and on ſubjects generally uſeful, neither too ſimple, nor too difficult, and adapted to the different propenſities of thoſe for whom they are intended: for this purpoſe, young men ought not to be kept at a diſtance from their tutors; at preſent theſe gentlemen are much too ſtiff and reſerved. Artificial dignity may ſuffer from too near an inſpection, from too

great a familiarity; but true dignity can never be leſſened by intimacy, while it preſerves a proper decorum. A ſimilarity of purſuits is a bond of union with all ages and all degrees. At preſent young men are left too much together; the company of their tutors, if they knew how to be familiar without loſing reſpect, might frequently reſtrain them from vicious indulgences, and give ſupport and aſſiſtance in many virtuous purſuits: at leaſt there are many who, I am certain, might have been ſo preſerved from vice and indolence. Another great evil, in both our univerſities, is the little attention that is paid, in moſt colleges, to the election of fellows, of thoſe who are to be the future guardians of our youth: wherever this right belongs to the ſociety, they are bound by the ſtricteſt obligation, by the will of their founder, to elect the moſt worthy and ſufficient; yet for all this, I am ſorry to ſay, and I ſay it from a painful knowledge of the fact, that this is very little attended to: for ſome men are elected, merely becauſe they are good companions; others, becauſe they ſhow an accommodating diſpoſition, and are not likely to diſturb the affairs of the college, that is, endeavour to recall it to its original principles: others are choſen becauſe they are connected, by intereſt or relationſhip, with the leaders of the ſociety; others again, becauſe they are mere ciphers; others, becauſe they are next in ſeniority, where the ſociety wiſh to avoid the trouble of a conteſt; and others, becauſe they are good mathematicians; but few, very few indeed, becauſe they are men qualified by their morals, their manners, and their knowledge, to be the inſtructors of youth: yet this is a ſacred truſt, and not to be conferred lightly. In every ſociety, therefore, where men are elected with any view to this employment, for all certainly are not, it is the indiſpenſable duty of their electors, to conſider whether their moral and intellectual endowments enable them, with zeal, affection, and ſteadineſs, to preſerve, in the moſt dangerous periods of their lives, the unformed youth committed to their vigilance, from the ſnares and temptations to which they are expoſed. As an ardent admirer of thoſe inſtitutions, which were at firſt founded with the nobleſt deſign, and with the moſt liberal munificence, I have ventured to offer a few remarks on the means of preſerving them from that ſweeping devaſtation which will probably one day overtake them, if they are found wanting in the great purpoſes for which they were intended, for they can finally be preſerved only by their own intrinſic worth." *P.* 22.

JOHNSON AND PARR.

" 'I HAVE been miſunderſtood. 'I hold up none of Dr. Parr's *ſeſquipedalia verba* to ridicule; it is his 'verbiage and phraſeology which I re- 'probate. It would be ridiculous, in- 'deed, to compare *the Birmingham 'Doctor* with Dr. Samuel Johnſon. I 'am not his biographer. It is not his 'life, but his writings, which I criticiſe.' p. 219. The reſemblance between Dr. Parr and Dr. Johnſon has been perceived by many who are not very partial to either: there are the ſame ſeſquipedalian words to be found in both writers; the ſame pompoſity of diction, the ſame inverſion of the language: they have equally contributed to withdraw us from that ſimplicity which Addiſon and Middleton had taught us to admire, and diſguiſed the poverty and repetition of their ideas under a heavy load of words. Johnſon has taught us nothing new; he has put the common topics of inſtruction into a new dreſs, but he has made no diſcoveries either in ſcience or morality: he was, therefore, not a man of genius, but of talents; for genius invents, talents only arrange, diſpoſe, and modify, adorn, compare, and compound; genius is the lot of few, talents fall to the ſhare of many, in different proportions and degrees; ſome men are born to create knowledge, others to acquire it, and teach what they have learnt: Johnſon had not the erudition of Parr, nor has Parr all the wiſdom of Johnſon; nor do we find in either of them that wiſdom which lays down principles, but that which developes them: there is in both the ſame ſpirit of domineering, the ſame impatience of contradiction, the ſame blind attachment to their own belief: the one has the prejudices of a Tory, the other of a Whig; but as the latter are more liberal than the former, they are leſs diſguſting, yet equally averſe to improvement beyond their own ideas of right;

right; there is in both the ſame credulity, the ſame ſuſceptibility of being flattered: the one was impoſed on by the Cock Lane ghoſt, the other by the Shakſpeare manuſcripts. In the powers of argument Dr. Parr is certainly not inferior to his mighty predeceſſor, and, in ſtrength of language, he is always his equal; yet it is to be lamented, that he has waſted his time and his talents on ſubjects infinitely beneath him, though he has contrived to introduce incidentally, many paſſages which diſplay the full ſtrength of his powers, on ſubjects which call for the fulleſt exertion of the moſt enlarged intellect, and intereſt the feelings of all ranks: yet even theſe are in danger of being loſt to poſterity, for few readers, in future times, will think of looking for politics or morality in a Sequel to a printed Paper, or a Statement of Facts, &c. This it is which ſets Parr below Johnſon; he has never exerted his powers directly on any ſubject of importance; there is only one book which will ſave him from being forgotten, his Tracts by Warburton: there indeed he has diſplayed the full extent of his powers, and exhauſted the language in terms of cauſtic ſeverity, in bitterneſs of reproof, and dignity of ſentiment: yet even here we are only amuſed by an attack on an individual, and not improved by any developement of general principles. That Dr. Parr has not written with the ſimplicity of Addiſon, is no more to be objected to him as a fault, than that an oak is not a poplar or a plane; and if excellence in writing is not reſtrained to one ſpecies, he deſerves the praiſe of having exalted that in which he has written to its greateſt pitch. Thoſe men who are delighted with the ſimplicity of Addiſon, it will certainly not pleaſe; but thoſe who admire ſomething more animating and more impreſſive, it will not fail to delight. Dr. Parr's ſingularity conſiſts more in the arrangement than the choice of his words; he has not always the pompous terms of Johnſon, but who will deny that he often imitates him? There is in both the ſame dilation of ideas, the ſame verboſity, the ſame inverſion of the language in forced and awkward ſentences; there are, however, on the whole, more points in which they reſemble each other than in which they differ. Our author has only compared the nature of their works, not their merits as writers. 'What has Dr. 'Parr written?' is a fair queſtion; but we ought alſo to aſk, how he has written. 'A ſermon or two, rather long:' does this detract from the merits of a ſermon, or ſay of it all it deſerves? 'A Latin preface to Bellendenus (ra-'ther long too), containing a cento of 'Latin and Greek expreſſions applied 'to political ſubjects.' Is this a juſt character of the happy ingenuity with which claſſical quotations are applied to modern events? with which learning, the moſt minute and extenſive, is rendered ſubſervient to politics, and ancient writers deſcribe living characters. It is a work of unrivalled learning, memory, and brilliancy. 'Another preface to 'ſome Engliſh tracts:' this is no character of that preface, which is certainly the fineſt philippic in the language. 'And two or three pamphlets 'about his own private quarrels.' If any of his readers can ſuffer their judgment to be miſled by ſuch empty aſſertions, they muſt be more inclined than they ought to be to take opinions upon truſt. A more unfair attempt was never made to bias the public againſt a great man; for without ſaying a word of the merits of his writings, he has endeavoured to make it believed, that they are worthy of little notice or regard. In the enumeration of Dr. Parr's works, the author has, with his uſual want of candour, omitted to mention that which does him moſt credit, by its language, ſpirit, and ſentiments; I mean the Letter to the Diſſenters of Birmingham, from a Citizen of Irenopolis; which, though it does not bear his name, has never been diſowned by the Doctor or his friends.

"'Dr. Parr publiſhed at Birming-'ham what he called "A printed Pa-'per;" and after that, "A Sequel to 'a printed Paper," a very large pam-'phlet, *de omni ſcibili*, as uſual.' p. 221. This is a proof that our author has either intentionally miſrepreſented Dr. Parr, or never read his works; for it was not the Doctor who publiſhed a printed paper, but as the title expreſſes, a Sequel to a printed Paper, written by another perſon. It is even ridiculous to ſuppoſe, that he wrote both the Paper and the Sequel, to which it is an anſwer. As to all that waſte of learning which the gentleman has employed to ridicule Dr. Parr, or perhaps

perhaps to gratify his own vanity, it is uſeleſs to either purpoſe; it is trifling and ridiculous, and has neither humour nor vivacity." *P.* 36.

EPIC POETRY.

"'HE gave the public a long quarto 'volume of epic verſes, *Joan of Arc*, 'written, as he ſays in the preface, in '*ſix weeks*.' p. 353. There are three epic poems in the world, and there will never be another. Homer, Virgil, and Milton, need fear no future rivals. All the receipts of the critics have never yet produced an epic poet; they may enable others to judge of their merits; they may direct the efforts of genius, but they can never ſupply the want of it; for poetry is the gift of nature, rules are the reſult of art. The great fault of modern epic poetry, is the frequent appearance of the poet, particularly in drawing characters. Homer never draws a character; Voltaire never introduces a hero without giving his own opinion of him; ſo that he no longer writes a poem but a hiſtory. A painter, who, at the bottom of his picture, ſhould write the character or paſſion he meant to expreſs, muſt be thought ridiculous; and a poet is no leſs ſo, who does not leave the characters of his heroes to be drawn by the reader. An epic poet ought to repreſent the man, not to deſcribe him; and if his language and animation are not ſufficient to ſet his characters before us, it is in vain he attempts to labour them; the illuſion is deſtroyed; and, inſtead of a poet, he becomes only an hiſtorian. This diſtinction will be found to apply conſtantly." *P.* 97.

VII. *Indian Antiquities;* or Diſſertations, relative to the ancient geographical Diviſions, the pure Syſtem of primeval Theology, the grand Code of civil Laws, the original Form of Government, the widely extended Commerce, and the various and profound Literature of Hindoſtan: compared throughout with the Religion, Laws, Government, and Literature, of Perſia, Egypt, and Greece. The whole intended as introductory to, and illuſtrative of, the Hiſtory of Hindoſtan, upon a comprehenſive Scale. Vol. VII. and final. 8vo. pp. 452. 7s. *White.*

LIST OF PLATES,

Engraved by Barlow.

1. *THE Peacock Mogul Throne, incruſted with Diamonds.*
2. *Sani, or the Planet Saturn, encircled with a Ring, formed of Serpents.*

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EXTRACTS.

ON THE ORIGIN AND ANTIQUITY OF COINED MONEY.

"THE firſt commerce of mankind was carried on without the medium of any money, ſtamped or unſtamped: it ſimply conſiſted in the barter of one commodity for another, according to the reſpective wants of the parties concerned in it. The greater or leſs urgency of the want, in general, fixed the higher or inferior price of the commodity; but the eye was often the ſole judge, and quantity the chief rule of determining. There is a curious account in Coſmas, called Indicopleuſtes, of the ancient mode of carrying on traffic between the inhabitants of Axuma, the capital of Æthiopia, and the natives of Barbaria, a region of Africa near the ſea-coaſt, where were gold-mines, which will give us a tolerable idea of this primitive kind of commerce. 'Every other year,' ſays he, 'a caravan of merchants, to the num-'ber of five hundred, ſets off from 'Axuma to traffic with the Barbarians 'for gold. They carry with them cat-'tle, ſalt, and iron, to barter for that 'gold. Upon their arrival at the mines, 'they encamp on a particular ſpot, 'and expoſe their cattle, with the ſalt 'and iron, to the view of the natives.

'The

'The Barbarians approach the mart, 'bringing with them ſmall ingots of 'gold; and, after ſurveying the articles 'expoſed to ſale, place on or near the 'animal, ſalt, or iron, which they 'wiſh to purchaſe, one or more of 'the ingots, and then retire to a place 'at ſome diſtance. The proprietor of 'the article, if he thought the gold 'ſufficient, took it up and went away; 'and the purchaſer alſo ſecured and 'carried away the commodity he de-'ſired. If the gold was not deemed 'ſufficient, the Axumite let it remain 'affixed to the article, till either more 'ingots were added to ſatisfy the full 'demand for it, or the firſt offered 'taken away. Their total ignorance 'of each other's language rendered 'this ſilent mode neceſſary, and the 'whole buſineſs terminated in five days, 'when the Axumite caravan departed 'homewards, a journey of not leſs 'than ſix months *.' In theſe compacts, however, the eye muſt often have been deceived; and the bulk of an article was not always the proper criterion of its worth, ſince ſome articles of great magnitude were of trifling value, while others of inferior bulk were in the higheſt eſtimation. It was alſo impoſſible, in many inſtances, to divide, without ſpoiling, the commodity in requeſt, according to the proportion ſuited to the mutual wants and ability of the buyer and ſeller. It became abſolutely neceſſary, therefore, to have recourſe to ſome general medium in commerce, and that medium varied according to the produce of the country in which it was carried on. In ſome it conſiſted of ſhells, in others of cocoa-nuts, in others of leather or paper; ſo that, if the reader will excuſe the joke, we ſee a *paper-currency* was eſtabliſhed in the earlieſt ages. Such was the firſt rude money, a word which explains itſelf, being derived to us from *moneta*, ſince it adviſed one of the price of an article.

"The *cowries*, or white ſhells, at this day uſed as currency in India, and the ſmall Siameſe coins, in form reſembling *nuts*, are, in all probability, relics of this ancient uſage before metals were ſo generally adopted as the repreſentative ſigns of the value of articles of commerce. It was the beauty, firmneſs, and durability of metals, that occaſioned them to be ſo adopted, but it was many ages before they were ſtamped with any impreſſion deſcriptive of their weight or value. It was the cuſtom of the merchant, as in fact is ſtill practiſed in China, to carry a certain portion of gold or ſilver into the market, and having previouſly furniſhed himſelf with proper inſtruments and ſcales, he cut off and weighed out, before the vender of the commodity wanted, as many pieces as were proportioned to the purchaſe of it. The great inconvenience and delay occaſioned by this mode of carrying on commerce, ſoon induced the merchant to bring with him pieces of money, already portioned out, of different weights and value, and ſtamped with the marks neceſſary to diſtinguiſh them. There is very great reaſon to believe that the earlieſt coins ſtruck were uſed both as weights and money; and indeed this circumſtance is in part proved by the very names of certain of the Greek and Roman coins: thus the Attic *mina* and the Roman *libra* equally ſignify a pound; and the σταθμος of the Greeks, ſo called from *weighing*, is deciſive as to this point. The Jewiſh ſhekel was alſo a weight as well as a coin, three thouſand ſhekels, according to Arbuthnot, being equal in weight and value to one talent †. This is the oldeſt coin of which we any where read; for it occurs in Geneſis, ch. xxiii. v. 16, and exhibits direct evidence againſt thoſe who date the firſt coinage of money ſo low as the time of Crœſus or Darius; it being there expreſsly ſaid, that *Abraham weighed to Ephron four hundred ſhekels of ſilver, current money with the merchant.*

"Having conſidered the origin and high antiquity of coined money, we proceed to conſider the *ſtamp* or *impreſſion* which the firſt money bore. The primitive race of men being ſhepherds, and their wealth conſiſting in their cattle, in which Abraham is ſaid to have been rich, when, for greater convenience metals were ſubſtituted for the commodity itſelf, it was natural for the repreſentative ſign to bear impreſſed the object which it repreſented; and thus accordingly the earlieſt coins were ſtamped with the figure of

* "Vide Coſmas Indic. p. 138, et ſeq."
† "Arbuthnot on ancient Coins, p. 39."

an

an *ox* or *ſheep*. For proof that they actually did thus impreſs them, we can again appeal to the high authority of ſcripture; for there we are informed that Jacob bought a parcel *of a field for an hundred pieces of money*. Geneſis, ch. xxxiii. v. 19. The original Hebrew term, tranſlated *pieces of money*, is *keſitoth*, which ſignifies *lambs*, with the figure of which the metal was doubtleſs ſtamped. We have a ſecond inſtance of this practice in the ancient Greek coin, denominated Bus, the *ox*; and we meet with a third in the old braſs coins of Rome (whence I before obſerved the public treaſury was called *ærarium*), ſtamped, before that city began to uſe gold and ſilver money, with the figure of a *ſheep*, whence the Latin name *pecunia*. *Signatum eſt notis pecudum; unde et pecunia appellata* †. In proceſs of time, when empires were formed, and men crowded into cities, coins came to be impreſſed with different devices, alluſive either to the hiſtory of its founder, ſome remarkable event in the hiſtory of the nation, their accidental ſituation, or the predominant devotion of the country. Thus the ſhekel of the Jews had Aaron's rod budding, with a ſmoking cenſer. The Tyrians had their petræ ambroſiæ, and ſerpentine emblems. The Athenian coins bore impreſſed an owl, and Pallas. The maritime race, who inhabited the Peloponneſus, had a teſtudo, or ſhell, as their ſymbol; the Perſians, practiſed in the uſe of the bow, an archer, which is the conſtant device on the darics; the Theſſalians, a horſe; the Byzantines, ſituated on the Thracian Boſphorus, a dolphin twiſted about a trident.

"Although I have combated the idea of the Lydian or Perſian money being the firſt that was ever coined, I am induced, by the general and united atteſtation of ancient claſſical writers, perfectly to acquieſce in the judgment of medalliſts, that the coins of thoſe nations were the firſt ſtamped with the effigies of the reigning prince; and the priority of coining money is, with great propriety and probability, aſſigned to Crœſus, the wealthieſt monarch of Aſia, when his capital was invaded and taken by Cyrus, who forbore to plunder that rich city, on the expreſs condition, that both the monarch and the inhabitants ſhould, without reſerve, bring forth their whole amaſſed wealth, which muſt have amounted to a prodigious and almoſt incalculable ſum. This conqueſt gave the Perſians, who were before an indigent people, without any gold or ſilver currency, and pent up within the contracted limits of the province properly called Perſia, not only the poſſeſſion of a vaſt treaſure, but of a wide and rich territory, and laid the foundation of their future grandeur." *P.* 467.

INDIAN CURE FOR THE BITE OF VENOMOUS REPTILES.

"THEVENOT mentions two methods in general uſe among the Indians of curing the bite of venomous reptiles, of a very extraordinary nature; the firſt is, holding a burning coal, as long and as cloſe as poſſible, to the wound, which draws out the venom by degrees; and, what is very ſingular, the patient does not feel any great inconvenience from the heat during the time of the operation. The other remedy conſiſts in the application of the *cobra*, or ſnake-ſtone. Of this celebrated ſpecific, the beſt are made in the city of Diu, and are compoſed of the roots of certain plants burnt to aſhes, which aſhes are mixed with a particular kind of earth, and then burnt a ſecond time. Of this compoſition, reduced into a paſte, they form the cobra-ſtone of the ſize of a pigeon's egg. It is applied in caſe a perſon be bit by any kind of ſerpent or viper, or wounded by a poiſoned arrow, in the following manner:—they firſt prick the wound with a needle till the blood flows, and then fix the ſtone to it, which ſticks faſt, and remains there till it falls off of itſelf. It is afterwards put into a woman's, or, if that cannot be had, into cow's, milk, where it purges itſelf of the poiſon; and if this be not done immediately the ſtone burſts *.

"Dr. Fryer, who was ten years in India, and who, as a phyſician, was certainly a proper judge of ſuch matters, ſpeaks alſo of theſe ſnake-ſtones. He ſays, they are made by the Brahmins, and that they are a ſure counter-

† "Plinii Nat. Hiſt. lib. xxxii. cap. 3."
* "Voyage aux Indes Orient. vol. v. p. 318."

poiſon

poiſon to all deadly bites. If the ſtone adheres, it attracts the poiſon, and, put into milk, it recovers itſelf, leaving its virulency therein, which is diſcovered by its greenneſs ‡.

"This author imputes to the viciſſitudes of the climate all the variety of diſeaſes ſuffered by the Indians. During the ſteady northern monſoon, their fibres are hardened againſt the uſual diſeaſes of the country. In the variable months, catarrh, glandular ſwellings of the throat, rheumatiſms, and intermitting fevers, are common among them. In the extreme heats they are afflicted with cholera morbus and violent inflammations of the eyes. In the rains, with dreadful fluxes, and diſorders of the brain and the ſtomach: for the latter they eat *hing*, a ſort of liquid aſſafœtida, which cauſes them to emit a diſguſting odour." *P.* 653.

GUNPOWDER KNOWN TO THE ANCIENTS.

"A MODERN author, of much celebrity, has very ingeniouſly attempted to prove that the ancients were actually acquainted, in very early periods, with the chemical proceſs of making *gunpowder*, and inſtances the invention of Salmoneus, with which he is ſaid to have imitated the thunder and lightning of Jupiter, in proof of his aſſertion. What is, however, much more to our preſent purpoſe, he cites Themiſtius to prove that the Indian Brahmins encountered one another *with thunder and lightning* launched from an eminence *; and Philoſtratus in evidence, that, when attacked by their enemies, they did not leave their walls to fight them, but darted upon them miſſile weapons, in noiſe and effect reſembling πρηστῆρας και βροντας †, *lightning and thunder*. By theſe weapons were evidently meant the fire-ſhaft, or rocket, deſcribed above; and to theſe we may add the artificial thunder and lightning uſed in their cavern-initiations.

"No higher proof in time need, indeed, be adduced of the intimate acquaintance of the Indians with the penetrating and deſtructive nature of fire than that exhibited in the *chacra*, with which they have armed their god Veeſhnu, and with which he deſtroys the malignant Aſſoors. It is a circular maſs of fire, which, inſtinct with life, like the thunderbolt of the Grecian Jove, when hurled from the hand of that deity, traverſes the illimitable void, and exterminates his enemies wherefoever concealed." *P.* 671.

MANUFACTURE OF SILK.

"SILK having been abundantly and immemorially made in India, and probably in ſtill greater profuſion in China, it is rather ſurpriſing that this valuable article ſhould, from its ſcarcity, be eſteemed at Rome of equal value to its weight in gold, and continue ſo for two hundred and fifty years, till the time of the Emperor Aurelian, who is ſaid to have refuſed his empreſs a ſuit of ſilk, on account of its exceſſive dearneſs. When the ſeat of empire was tranſferred to Conſtantinople, the Roman nobility, being nearer the region where it was fabricated, and ſparing neither pains nor coſt to obtain all the articles of Eaſtern luxury, were univerſally clothed in veſts of ſilk; but their Perſian neighbours and rivals, who for a time monopolized that lucrative branch of commerce, ſold it in the Byzantine markets at ſo exorbitant a price, as incited the Emperor Juſtinian to many earneſt but fruitleſs efforts to obtain a part of that trade by other leſs difficult and expenſive channels. While engaged in theſe ſpeculations, an incident occurred which greatly facilitated his deſign of wreſting this monopoly from the hands of the Perſians, and terminated in making his own capital the principal mart to Europe of that envied manufacture. Dr. Campbell having entered pretty much at large into this ſubject, and traced the progreſs of this traffic to the Britiſh iſles, as the ſubject alſo deſcends to ages below the period of Indian antiquities, and as I have many other intereſting matters ſtill to inveſtigate, relative to the arts and ſciences of the Indians, the reader will excuſe my inſerting the account of that well-informed writer.

"Two Perſian monks, that had tra-

‡ "Fryer's Travels, p. 33."
* "Themiſtius, Oratio 27, p. 337."
† "Philoſtrat. Vita Apollonii, lib. ii. cap. 33."

velled the Indies, went to the emperor, and told him, that they could very eaſily ſettle that manufacture amongſt his ſubjects, ſo that they might never be under the neceſſity of dealing with any ſtrangers, much leſs with the Perſians, for that commodity. This ſilk, ſaid they, which is ſo precious here, is, in *Serinda* (the moſt populous and moſt civilized country in the Indies, where we have ſpent many years), ſpun by certain little worms, which inſtinct they receive from nature. As for theſe worms, it is impoſſible to tranſport them; but their eggs may be brought thence without any difficulty, and hatched here by giving them a certain degree of heat.

"Such were the propoſals made by the monks to Juſtinian, who readily cloſed with them, making them great promiſes, in caſe they were able to bring this matter to bear, which, without much difficulty, they did; for, returning to the Indies, they brought thence a conſiderable quantity of the eggs, nouriſhing the worms, when they came out, with the leaves of mulberries; and thus, according to Procopius, was the art of making ſilk introduced into the Greek empire ‡.

"This tranſaction fell out A.D. 550, but it was a long time before it ſpread itſelf much beyond the bounds of the Greek empire; for we find that, A. D. 1130, Roger, king of Sicily, having conquered a part of Greece, brought over into his own country the art of managing ſilk-worms, which was quickly transferred thence to Calabria, and other parts of Italy, where it flouriſhed for ſome ages, before it was tranſferred to the ſouthern parts of France, which, the great hiſtorian Mezeray tells us, happened under the reign of Francis the Firſt, in which, however, he is deceived; for Lewis XI. A. D. 1470, introduced it into his dominions, and ſent for perſons ſkilful in the art of managing ſilk, not only from Genoa, Venice, and Florence, but alſo from Greece; and, by his letters patent, dated in the year 1480, granted them conſiderable privileges. But the price of this commodity was ſtill kept up at a great height.

"That magnificent prince, Henry VIII. wore commonly woollen hoſe, unleſs by chance he had a pair of ſilk from Spain. His ſon, Edward VI. had a pair of ſilk ſtockings preſented him by Sir Thomas Greſham, which preſent of his was much taken notice of. Queen Elizabeth in the third year of her reign, had a pair of black knit ſilk ſtockings given her by Mrs. Montague, and ſhe never wore worſted afterwards. In the year 1600, Mr. William Lee, a native of Nottingham, invented the art of frame-work knitting, which has been ſince carried, with the manufacture itſelf, in all its various branches, to ſuch a high point of excellence and national importance *." *P.* 741.

‡ "Procopius de Bello Gothic. lib. iv. cap. 17."

* "Campbell's edition of Harris's Voyages, vol. i. p. 506."

VIII. *A Familiar Treatiſe on the phyſical Education of Children*, during the early Period of their Lives. Being a Compendium addreſſed to all Mothers who are ſeriouſly concerned for the Welfare of their Offspring. Tranſlated from the German of CHRISTIAN AUGUSTUS STRUVE, M. D. Phyſician of Görlitz, in Saxony; honorary Member of the Royal Humane Society of London, and of ſeveral literary Inſtitutions. To which are prefixed, Introductory Lectures on the ſame Subject. By A. F. M. WILLICH, Author of the "Lectures on Diet and Regimen," &c. &c. 8vo. pp. 449. 8s. *Murray and Highley.*

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PHYSICAL CHARACTER OF THE SAVAGE.

"THE ſavage, as he is called, prefers the active free life of nature to every other conſideration: ſurrounded with perils, his powers, his courage, his reſolution, are awakened, and he is rewarded with health in the field, with independence in his hut, with reſpect and honour among his tribe. He neither wants, nor deſires more: and what addition to his happineſs could he derive from another ſtate, with the advantages of which he is unacquainted, and to the inconveniencies of which he cannot ſubmit? Let us read the various unadorned ſpeeches of thoſe whom we call ſavages, and ſay, whether ſound ſenſe and natural juſtice be not conſpicuous in them. The frame of man, too, in this ſtate, is as much improved, though with a rude hand, and but little advantage, as it is capable of being improved in it: he is formed for a contented equanimity, and to welcome death with calmneſs, after the enjoyment of a life of permanent health.—The Bedouin and Abiponian are both happy in their reſpective condition; but the former ſhudders at the thought of inhabiting a town, as the latter does at the idea of being interred in a church, when he dies; according to their peculiar feelings, it would be the ſame as if they were buried alive.

"In Canada, Virginia, the Brazils, and other American provinces, children are generally laid naked on raw cotton, in hammocks or cradles covered with fur. In the province of Peru, they are frequently placed in ſhallow pits dug in the earth, ſo as to allow them room ſufficient to move their arms freely above ground, where a few clothes are faſtened around the child, that it may receive no injury.—I will not decide whether this circumſtance has not induced a late noted empiric, in this country, to try his experiments for the cure of diſeaſes, with patients who were weak and credulous enough to ſubmit their bodies, as it were, to be buried alive.

"In ſome parts of North America, infants are generally laid on couches filled with the duſt of worm-eaten timber: this ſimple contrivance anſwers the uſeful purpoſe of keeping them dry and cleanly, as the powdered wood abſorbs all moiſture. When they are able to move, the ſolicitous mother incites them to meet her by preſenting the food appointed by Nature. Thus, it is almoſt inconceivable, that little ſavages, at the tender age of a few months, eſpecially in Africa, ſhould poſſeſs ſuch ſtrength and agility as to embrace the waiſt of the mother with their arms and legs, without the leaſt fear; and imbibe the maternal gift while ſhe is engaged in fatiguing purſuits. In that country, it is truly aſtoniſhing to ſee infants two months old creeping about, and others ſomewhat older, walking upon their hands and knees, almoſt as ſpeedily as adults.—On the contrary, in our quarter of the globe, it is not uncommon to ſee boys

ſeveral years old, nurſed either by the breaſts of an ill-adviſed mother, or with ſpoon-meat on the lap of an effeminating nurſe. Such was the habit of the proud philoſopher Plotinus, who, at eight years of age, when returning from ſchool, viſited his favourite nurſe, and greedily partook of his wonted repaſt. Theſe abſurdities, however, I am happy to obſerve, do not often appear in a country where mothers are equally eſteemed for their good ſenſe and native modeſty."—*P.* 41.

THE EXPERIMENTS OF NURSES ON THE TENDER FRAME OF INFANTS, EXPOSED——WALKING MACHINES, &c.

"BEFORE the child is ſcarcely two months old, I have often had the mortification to obſerve, that over-wiſe nurſes begin to try experiments on its legs. As the bones, however, have not yet acquired ſufficient firmneſs, it may be eaſily conceived what injury muſt be done to the formation and growth of the child, by attempts equally prepoſterous and detrimental.

"No leſs abſurd is the practice of confining infants for ſeveral hours in walking-machines, as well as the prevailing method of carrying them on *one* arm. Both the nurſe and the child often experience the bad effects of this habit: the former may become ſidebent and crooked, while the child is unnaturally compreſſed, ſo that its joints and bones cannot unfold their organic powers. I ſhall upon a future occaſion ſuggeſt a more rational and proper method of carrying infants, than is at preſent uniformly practiſed.

"There are other very injudicious cuſtoms, which deſerve ſevere animadverſion. I allude to the ſtrange habit of taking very young children to places of worſhip or amuſement; ſending them to ſchools, with the view of making them ſedate, or confining them, eſpecially during cold weather, in hot and ſuffocating rooms. By ſuch deſtructive means, the foundation is laid for that plethoric habit, which diſpoſes them either to apoplectic or eruptive diſorders, to convulſions, palſy, epilepſy, in ſhort, to that very general irritability of the ſyſtem, which is the forerunner of conſumption. If theſe effects do not always follow, we ought not to be leſs attentive to the cauſes which may imperceptibly produce them; for it is a remark which occurs to every reflecting obſerver, that the preſent generation diſplays an unaccountable debility, and incapacity to withſtand the ſenſible changes of the weather, as well as the influence of the ſeaſons. It ſeems, from the general conduct of nurſes, almoſt doubtful, that freſh air, in whatever temperature, is the true balm of life.

"The digeſtive organ of children is likewiſe ſubject to very furious aſſaults: their tender ſtomachs ought not to be meaſured by thoſe of adults. And in this reſpect, neither the quantity, nor the quality of nutriment, is properly attended to:—tea, coffee, beer, and wine, all are more or leſs hurtful, and here generally miſapplied. Nor are we ſufficiently ſtudious to contrive ſuch exerciſe as is adapted to the age, ſtrength, temperament, and inclination of the child. Farther, many parents feel an invincible deſire to improve the infantile mind, at an age when ſuch attempts cannot be realized, without producing conſequences felt by the child, during the whole of its life;—they are anxious to exhibit the progreſs made by forward children in reading, in hiſtory, geography, arithmetic, &c. not conſidering that every premature exertion is attended with the moſt dangerous effects. Thus, the acceſs of the fluids towards the head is promoted; preternatural irritability of the whole nervous ſyſtem, and a tendency to ſpaſmodic ſtrictures, are thereby occaſioned; digeſtion is likewiſe impaired, or rendered weak and inactive for life; and laſtly, early conſumption, or dropſy of the head, terminates the calamitous ſcene." *P.* 55.

THE UTILITY AND ABUSE OF COMPOSING DRAUGHTS, &c.

"COMPOSING draughts, powders, or pills, reſemble in ſome degree the ſharp and dangerous inſtruments of the mechanic, which can be ſafely employed only by the maſter.—Want of ſleep, and loud complaints, may indeed often induce parents and nurſes to have recourſe to anodynes, paregoric elixirs, and other opiates; but theſe expedients are the more objectionable, as they frequently become habitual; and though they ſhould regularly cure one ſymptom

tom of diſeaſed action in the body, that of reſtleſſneſs and pain, yet it is not in the nature of things, that they could uniformly effect a radical cure of the diſeaſe. On the contrary, they in general ſtupify the heads of children, produce great relaxation and preternatural irritability, a fickly habit, and at length total imbecility, both of mind and body. Let us therefore keep a watchful eye over indolent and unprincipled nurſes, who perhaps often poiſon our children with narcotics and ſoporifics, merely to indulge their own convenience." *P.* 63.

EFFECTS OF VIOLENT IMPRESSIONS ON THE SENSES.

"ALL violent impreſſions on the ſenſes and the body of children, ought to be carefully avoided. It is injurious to toſs them about with rapidity in the arms. Loud crying, or ſhouting in their ears, diſcharging fire-arms, preſenting glittering objects to their view, as well as ſudden, and too great a degree of light, are equally injurious. Thus infants are frequently ſtupified and affrighted; the brain is ſhaken in the moſt detrimental manner; and hence ariſe the moſt diſtreſſing conſequences. On ſuch occaſions, we cannot beſtow too much attention to the conduct of wet-nurſes, or ſervants.—I knew a ſimple man, who reſorted to the abſurd practice of placing himſelf over the cradle, and making a horrible noiſe, with a view to intimidate and ſilence the crying infant. A child, however, ought to enjoy the moſt perfect reſt and compoſure, if it be our wiſh to promote ſound ſleep, regular growth, and its conſequent proſperity.

"It is equally detrimental to both mind and body, when infants are continually carried about on the arm of the nurſe, teaſed with loud ſoliloquies, prayers, or other mechanical prattling; and eſpecially when they are inceſſantly provoked to diſplay their anger or revenge. Such conduct is neceſſarily attended with pernicious effects, while it prevents the ſpontaneous expanſion of infantine powers, blunts their ſenſes, and is ultimately productive of nervous and muſcular debility: a proof how imperfectly we are acquainted with nature, and how little we are accuſtomed to reflect that the tender nerves of children muſt experience a violent ſtimulus from impreſſions, to which an adult may be habituated, or which do not ſenſibly affect him.

"The bodily education of boys and girls ought in every reſpect to be uniform. A great difference uſually prevails in the education of both ſexes during infancy; a diſtinction which, unfortunately, is the offspring of prejudice, and on that account female children are cruelly neglected. Parents, being too anxious for the accompliſhment of girls, imagine that they muſt be kept under a certain reſtraint. Boys, in general, are not laced, but poor girls are compreſſed tight enough to ſuffocate them, becauſe it is erroneouſly ſuppoſed, that this injudicious practice contributes to an elegant ſhape, though ultimately the contrary effect is obvious; as it is the ſureſt way of making children round-ſhouldered and deformed. Girls are from their cradle compelled to a more ſedentary life; and, with this intention, dolls and other playthings are early procured; yet boys are permitted to take more frequent exerciſe. Thus, girls are confined in their apartments, while boys amuſe themſelves in the open air. Such abſurd conſtraints impede the free and progreſſive evolution of the different faculties inherent in the human mind. If, therefore, it be our wiſh to educate healthy wives and happy mothers, it is indiſpenſably neceſſary to treat the female ſex, as well as the male, in a manner equally conſiſtent and rational." *P.* 153.

OF WALKING.

"EVERY kind of ſpontaneous exerciſe is preferable to that artificially enforced. We ſhould therefore afford children early opportunities of uſing their legs. But a queſtion here ariſes, how do they in general learn to walk? Certainly in a very abſurd manner, and with danger to their health and ſtraight growth. Many a well-meaning mother enjoys the ſhort, but illuſive pleaſure, of ſeeing her child ſtand on its legs at a very early age, without conſidering whether theſe limbs have acquired ſufficient ſtrength and firmneſs to ſupport the body; and many nurſes prematurely induce infants to walk, that they may indulge their own idle diſpoſitions, or purſue their ordinary buſineſs, while they expoſe their charge to all

all the effects of ſuch miſmanagement. Sometimes, alſo, vain mothers endeavour to excel their neighbours in teaching children the uſe of their legs; but this artificial effort may with more propriety be termed waddling than walking: it is a wretched way of tottering about, and ſtumbling, which cannot but offend the eye of every judicious ſpectator.

"Children are often, in a manner, ſuſpended by what are called leading-ſtrings, which are faſtened to their jackets, or corſets, at the ſhoulders. Theſe have the appearance of an harneſs contrived for the taming of a wild animal, rather than for leading a tender and ſprightly infant. Whoever has once obſerved the wanton manner in which nurſes pull and toſs about thoſe ill-fated children uſed to leading-ſtrings, muſt be convinced of the injurious tendency of ſuch practices; eſpecially when in danger of falling, they are raiſed by them, as a horſe is checked by his bridle, ſo that they are often ſubject to diſlocations. Beſides, they thus rely upon extraneous aſſiſtance, and do not exert their own powers.—Leading-ſtrings farther compreſs the ſhoulders, and impede the circulation of the blood in thoſe parts; and, while the child reclines forward with the whole weight of its body, it habitually acquires an improper and diſagreeable poſture.

"Not leſs objectionable are the moveable machines, vulgarly called go-carts. When infants remain for a length of time in ſuch a conſtrained ſituation, the weight of the body bends the feeble legs, which ultimately become crooked. The breaſt alſo ſuffers, by leaning upon the circular top, and puſhing the machine.

"To teach children to walk, by holding one of their hands, tends to produce a deformity of that ſide by which they are led; or at leaſt they are apt to become round-ſhouldered. Even though they be conducted by both hands, between two perſons, we may apprehend ſimilar conſequences; as the body of the child ſtill preponderates to one ſide or the other.

"Thoſe mothers who poſſeſs true affection for their little ones, ſhould not be too anxious to teach them the uſe of their legs. It is indeed far more prudent to delay theſe exerciſes for a few weeks or months, than by too premature an exertion of their ſtrength to expoſe infants to the misfortune of bandy legs, crooked ſpine, and round ſhoulders. In my own neighbourhood I have reluctantly noticed numbers of bandy-legged children, becauſe walking is here generally attempted by artificial means; and go-carts, as well as leading-ſtrings, are much in vogue. May theſe inſtruments of torture ſoon be aboliſhed, and mankind truſt to Nature alone, whoſe parental wiſdom forms no caricatures.

"To compel children to exert themſelves to walk during the period of dentition, is highly detrimental. At this time they are in an extremely debilitated ſtate, and their limbs are in danger of growing deformed, or being diſlocated. Hence I ſolicit mothers to pay particular regard to them at this critical change." *P.* 325.

OF GAMES DETRIMENTAL TO HEALTH.

"ALTHOUGH I do not intend to furniſh a compleie liſt of the various amuſements which have been introduced among children, yet I conceive it will not be difficult, from the nature of thoſe I ſhall mention, to underſtand the tendency of others, with which I may be unacquainted. Thus, if I ſucceed in exciting a ſufficient degree of intereſt on this topic, the reflecting parent will, I preſume, be enabled to draw uſeful inferences from my general obſervations.

"Almoſt every game may tend to injure health, by the manner in which it is played. The limits allotted to this work, however, do not admit of entering into minute explanations. He who poſſeſſes but a ſlight knowledge of the human frame, cannot fail to diſcriminate between ſafety and danger, as every thing depends upon the relative ſtrength and exerciſe of the young individual. By gradual practice, for inſtance, one boy may attain to a degree of dexterity in fencing and leaping; which exerciſes cannot be attempted by another without expoſing himſelf to certain deſtruction. But there are various poſtures which are always attended with danger; inaſmuch as they may occaſion diſlocations, or ruptures. Hence parents ought, in this reſpect, to be attentive to the following gymnaſtic

gymnaſtic amuſements of their children.

"1. When young people are ſtanding, and bend their head backwards to the ground, with a view to tumble over.—On this occaſion they endeavour to preſerve the equilibrium, by a ſudden turn, and often experience dangerous falls. Thus the muſcles of the abdomen are preternaturally ſtretched; the inteſtines are violently preſſed downwards; and ruptures frequently produced. When children attempt to climb, they might undertake this ſpecies of muſcular exerciſe with more ſafety and ſucceſs without ſhoes, eſpecially if theſe do not exactly fit the feet; as they ſoon learn to employ the latter with great firmneſs and flexibility. Hence boys in the country are incomparably more expert in this purſuit than the youth of towns, who more eaſily injure themſelves by falling.

"2. Wantonly jumping for a conſiderable height, whether up or down, is attended with a violent concuſſion and extenſion of the muſcles. The performers ſhould therefore be inſtructed to make ſuch efforts with inflected knees; to let themſelves down firſt on the points of the toes, and then gradually deſcend on the ſoles of the feet.

"3. Nor ſhould too forcible exertions of muſcular power be ſuffered at this tender age; for the lifting of great weights, particularly the raiſing of a ponderous ſubſtance from the ground, and bending back the upper part of the body, are extremely dangerous attempts; becauſe, while in ſuch attitudes, the muſcles of the lower belly are contracted, and the bowels compreſſed between the midriff; reſpiration is obviouſly impeded; and thus ruptures are eaſily occaſioned. We often obſerve young and feeble children lifting and carrying others of a much larger ſize, which, for the reaſons above ſtated, ought never to be permitted.

"4. All partial exerciſe of the body, by which only one arm or leg is exerted, has a tendency to give the body a crooked form. Hence, playing at nine-pins, drawing hand-carts, carrying burdens on one arm, or ſhoulder, all are pernicious. The principal injury, however, ariſes from continuing ſuch employment for ſeveral hours together; becauſe, if it be practiſed with moderation, and but occaſionally reſorted to, its tendency is beneficial rather than hurtful. Young people, therefore, ought to be taught to make uſe of both arms, for we generally neglect the improvement of the left hand; and it would be very deſirable to contrive games in which both arms may be alternately exerciſed.

"5. Sedentary plays, if long perſevered in, are productive of bad conſequences, becauſe they are apt to bend the ſpine, and diſtort the body. The ſpinal column being too weak to ſupport the incumbent part of the frame, the vertebræ yield to one ſide, in conſequence of long-continued ſedentary employments; for which reaſon all games of this nature ought to be ſtrictly prohibited.

"6. Long ſtanding is likewiſe detrimental to the ſtraight growth of children: and as their legs are too feeble, by preponderating to one ſide the ſame injurious effect is produced.

"The games of children ought to be adapted in conformity to theſe obſervations. Bodily exerciſe is to them indiſpenſably neceſſary, provided it be regulated according to the rules and cautions before detailed: in ſuch caſe, it will neither endanger their health nor their lives; and we need be under no apprehenſion from their efforts to climb or leap. Thoſe, indeed, who tremble at every declivity, and will ſcarcely venture to move from the ſpot, are in greater danger of receiving injury, than the ſpirited and courageous boy, who generally is the moſt ſucceſsful. Mothers are on the whole too anxious on theſe occaſions, becauſe their tender ſex is not accuſtomed to bodily exerciſe: hence, by checking their little ones in every effort of leaping, they contribute to render them timid, without conſidering that by ſuch injudicious means they are ill prepared for encountering future dangers. For inſtance, in accidents from fire, they will be unable to ſave either their own lives or thoſe of others; and if they in the leaſt venture upon a ſudden emergency, they hazard more than they are qualified to overcome." *P.* 417.

IX. *Lyrical Ballads*, with other Poems. By W. WORDSWORTH. Vol. II.*. 12mo. pp. 227. 5s. *Longman and Rees.*

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HARTLEAP Well—There was a Boy, &c.—The Brothers, a paſtoral Poem—Ellen Irwin, or the Braes of Kirtle—Strange Fits of Paſſion I have known, &c.—Song—A Slumber did my Spirit ſeal, &c.—The Waterfall and the Eglantine—The Oak and the Broom, a Paſtoral—Lucy Gray—The idle Shepherd Boys, or Dungeon Gill Force, a Paſtoral—'T is ſaid that ſome have died for Love, &c.—Poor Suſan—Inſcription for the Spot where the Hermitage ſtood on St. Herbert's Iſland, Derwent-water—Inſcription for the Houſe (an Out-houſe) on the Iſland at Graſmere—To a Sexton—Andrew Jones—The two Thieves, or the laſt Stage of Avarice—A Whirl-blaſt from behind the Hill, &c.—Song for the wandering Jew—Ruth—Lines written with a Slate-pencil upon a Stone, &c.—Lines written on a Tablet in a School—The two April Mornings—The Fountain, a Converſation—Nutting—Three Years ſhe grew in Sun and Shower, &c.—The pet Lamb, a Paſtoral—Written in Germany on one of the coldeſt Days of the Century—The childleſs Father—The old Cumberland Beggar, a Deſcription—Rural Architecture—A Poet's Epitaph—A Character—A Fragment—Poems on the Naming of Places—Michael, a Paſtoral—Notes to the Poem of 'The Brothers'—Notes to the Poem of 'Michael.'

EXTRACTS.

POOR SUSAN.

" AT the corner of Wood Street, when daylight apears,
There 's a thruſh that ſings loud, it has ſung for three years:
Poor Suſan has paſs'd by the ſpot, and has heard
In the ſilence of morning the ſong of the bird.

" 'T is a note of enchantment; what ails her? ſhe ſees
A mountain aſcending, a viſion of trees;
Bright volumes of vapour through Lothbury glide,
And a river flows on through the vale of Cheapſide.

" Green paſtures ſhe views in the midſt of the dale,
Down which ſhe ſo often has tripp'd with her pail,
And a ſingle ſmall cottage, a neſt like a dove's,
The only one dwelling on earth that ſhe loves.

" She looks, and her heart is in heaven; but they fade,
The miſt and the river, the hill and the ſhade;
The ſtream will not flow, and the hill will not riſe,
And the colours have all paſs'd away from her eyes.

" Poor outcaſt! return—to receive thee once more
The houſe of thy father will open its door,
And thou once again, in thy plain ruſſet gown,
May'ſt hear the thruſh ſing from a tree of its own." *Vol.* ii. *p.* 80.

ANDREW JONES.

" I HATE that Andrew Jones: he 'll breed
His children up to waſte and pillage.
I wiſh the preſs-gang or the drum
With its tantara ſound would come,
And ſweep him from the village!

" I ſaid not this, becauſe he loves
Through the long day to ſwear and tipple;
But for the poor dear ſake of one
To whom a foul deed he had done,
A friendleſs man, a travelling Cripple!

" For this poor crawling helpleſs wretch
Some horſeman who was paſſing by,

* " See an account of Vol. I. in M. Epitome, vol. ii. p. 431."

A penny

A penny on the ground had thrown;
But the poor Cripple was alone,
And could not ſtoop—no help was nigh.

"Inch-thick the duſt lay on the ground,
For it had long been droughty weather:
So with his ſtaff the Cripple wrought
Among the duſt till it had brought
The halfpennies together.

"It chanc'd that Andrew paſs'd that way
Juſt at the time; and there he found
The Cripple in the mid-day heat
Standing alone, and at his feet
He ſaw the penny on the ground.

"He ſtopp'd, and took the penny up:
And when the Cripple nearer drew,
Quoth Andrew, 'Under half-a-crown,
'What a man finds is all his own,
'And ſo, my friend, good day to you.'

"And hence I ſaid, that Andrew's boys
Will all be train'd to waſte and pillage;
And wiſh'd the preſs-gang, or the drum
With its tantara ſound would come,
And ſweep him from the village!"
P. 89.

WRITTEN IN GERMANY, ON ONE OF THE COLDEST DAYS OF THE CENTURY.

I muſt apprize the reader that the ſtoves in North Germany generally have the impreſſion of a galloping horſe upon them, this being part of the Brunſwick arms.

"A FIG for your languages, German and Norſe,
Let me have the ſong of the kettle,
And the tongs and the poker, inſtead of that horſe
That gallops away with ſuch fury and force
On this dreary dull plate of black metal.

"Our earth is no doubt made of excellent ſtuff,
But her pulſes beat ſlower and ſlower;
The weather in forty was cutting and rough,
And then, as Heaven knows, the glaſs ſtood low enough,
And now it is four degrees lower.

"Here 's a fly, a diſconſolate creature perhaps,
A child of the field or the grove,
And ſorrow for him! this dull treacherous heat
Has ſeduc'd the poor fool from his winter retreat,
And he creeps to the edge of my ſtove.

"Alas! how he fumbles about the domains
Which this comfortleſs oven environ;
He cannot find out in what track he muſt crawl,
Now back to the tiles, and now back to the wall,
And now on the brink of the iron.

"Stock-ſtill there he ſtands like a traveller bemaz'd,
The beſt of his ſkill he has tried;
His feelers methinks I can ſee him put forth
To the eaſt and the weſt, and the ſouth and the north,
But he finds neither guide-poſt nor guide.

"See! his ſpindles ſink under him, foot, leg, and thigh;
His eyeſight and hearing are loſt;
Between life and death his blood freezes and thaws,
And his two pretty pinions of blue duſky gauze
Are glu'd to his ſides by the froſt.

"No brother, no friend has he near him, while I
Can draw warmth from the cheek of my love,
As bleſt and as glad in this deſolate gloom,
As if green ſummer graſs were the floor of my room,
And woodbines were hanging above.

"Yet, God is my witneſs, thou ſmall helpleſs thing,
Thy life I would gladly ſuſtain
Till ſummer comes up from the South, and with crowds
Of thy brethren a march thou ſhould'ſt found through the clouds,
And back to the foreſts again."
P. 144.

THE OLD CUMBERLAND BEGGAR.

A Deſcription.

[The claſs of beggars to which the old man here deſcribed belongs, will probably ſoon be extinct. It conſiſted of poor, and, moſtly, old and infirm

infirm perſons, who confined themſelves to a ſtated round in their neighbourhood, and had certain fixed days, on which, at different houſes, they regularly received charity; ſometimes in money, but moſtly in proviſions.]

"I SAW an aged Beggar in my walk,
And he was ſeated by the highway ſide
On a low ſtructure of rude maſonry
Built at the foot of a huge hill, that they
Who lead their horſes down the ſteep rough road
May thence remount at eaſe. The aged man
Had plac'd his ſtaff acroſs the broad ſmooth ſtone
That overlays the pile, and from a bag
All white with flour, the dole of village dames,
He drew his ſcraps and fragments, one by one,
And ſcann'd them with a fix'd and ſerious look
Of idle computation. In the ſun,
Upon the ſecond ſtep of that ſmall pile,
Surrounded by thoſe wild unpeopled hills,
He ſate, and ate his food in ſolitude;
And ever, ſcatter'd from his palſied hand,
That ſtill attempting to prevent the waſte,
Was baffled ſtill, the crumbs in little ſhowers
Fell on the ground, and the ſmall mountain birds,
Not venturing yet to peck their deſtin'd meal,
Approach'd within the length of half his ſtaff.

"Him from my childhood have I known, and then
He was ſo old, he ſeems not older now;
He travels on, a ſolitary man,
So helpleſs in appearance, that for him
The ſauntering horſeman-traveller does not throw
With careleſs hand his alms upon the ground,
But ſtops, that he may ſafely lodge the coin
Within the old man's hat; nor quits him ſo,
But ſtill when he has given his horſe the rein
Towards the aged Beggar turns a look,
Sidelong and half reverted. She who tends
The toll-gate, when in ſummer at her door
She turns her wheel, if on the road ſhe ſees
The aged Beggar coming, quits her work,
And lifts the latch for him, that he may paſs.
The poſt-boy, when his rattling wheels o'ertake
The aged Beggar in the woody lane,
Shouts to him from behind, and, if perchance
The old man does not change his courſe, the boy
Turns with leſs noiſy wheels to the road-ſide,
And paſſes gently by, without a curſe
Upon his lips, or anger at his heart.
He travels on, a ſolitary man;
His age has no companion. On the ground
His eyes are turn'd, and, as he moves along,
They move along the ground; and evermore,
Inſtead of common and habitual ſight
Of fields with rural works, of hill and dale,
And the blue ſky, one little ſpan of earth
Is all his proſpect. Thus, from day to day,
Bowbent, his eyes for ever on the ground,
He plies his weary journey, ſeeing ſtill,
And never knowing that he ſees, ſome ſtraw,
Some ſcatter'd leaf, or marks which, in one track,
The nails of cart or chariot wheel have left
Impreſs'd on the white road, in the ſame line,
At diſtance ſtill the ſame. Poor traveller!
His ſtaff trails with him; ſcarcely do his feet
Diſturb the ſummer duſt; he is ſo ſtill
In look and motion, that the cottage curs,
Ere he have paſs'd the door, will turn away,
Weary of barking at him. Boys and girls,
The vacant and the buſy, maids and youths,
And urchins newly breech'd, all paſs him by:

Him

Him even the ſlow-pac'd waggon leaves behind.

" But deem not this man uſeleſs.—Stateſmen! ye
Who are ſo reſtleſs in your wiſdom, ye
Who have a broom ſtill ready in your hands
To rid the world of nuiſances; ye proud,
Heart-ſwoln, while in your pride ye contemplate
Your talents, power, and wiſdom, deem him not
A burden of the earth. 'T is Nature's law
That none, the meaneſt of created things,
Of forms created the moſt vile and brute,
The dulleſt or moſt noxious, ſhould exiſt
Divorc'd from good, a ſpirit and pulſe of good,
A life and ſoul to every mode of being
Inſeparably link'd. While thus he creeps
From door to door, the villagers in him
Behold a record which together binds
Paſt deeds and offices of charity
Elſe unremember'd, and ſo keeps alive
The kindly mood in hearts which lapſe of years,
And that half wiſdom half experience gives,
Make ſlow to feel, and by ſure ſteps reſign
To ſelfiſhneſs and cold oblivious cares.
Among the farms and ſolitary huts,
Hamlets, and thinly-ſcatter'd villages,
Where'er the aged Beggar takes his rounds,
The mild neceſſity of uſe compels
To acts of love; and habit does the work
Of reaſon, yet prepares that after-joy
Which reaſon cheriſhes. And thus the ſoul,
By that ſweet taſte of pleaſure unpurſu'd
Doth find itſelf inſenſibly diſpos'd
To virtue and true goodneſs. Some there are,
By their good works exalted, lofty minds
And meditative, authors of delight
And happineſs, which to the end of time
Will live, and ſpread, and kindle; minds like theſe,
In childhood, from this ſolitary being,
This helpleſs wanderer, have perchance receiv'd
(A thing more precious far than all that books
Or the ſolicitudes of love can do!)
That firſt mild touch of ſympathy and thought,
In which they found their kindred with a world
Where want and ſorrow were. The eaſy man
Who ſits at his own door, and, like the pear
Which overhangs his head from the green wall,
Feeds in the ſunſhine; the robuſt and young,
The proſperous and unthinking, they who live
Shelter'd, and flouriſh in a little grove
Of their own kindred, all behold in him
A ſilent monitor, which on their minds
Muſt needs impreſs a tranſitory thought
Of ſelf-congratulation, to the heart
Of each recalling his peculiar boons,
His charters and exemptions; and perchance,
Though he to no one give the fortitude
And circumſpection needful to preſerve
His preſent bleſſings, and to huſband up
The reſpite of the ſeaſon, he, at leaſt,
And 't is no vulgar ſervice, makes them felt." *P.* 151.

RURAL ARCHITECTURE.

" THERE 's George Fiſher, Charles Fleming, and Reginald Shore,
Three roſy-cheek'd ſchoolboys, the higheſt not more
Than the height of a counſellor's bag;
To the top of Great How* did it pleaſe them to climb,
And there they built up without mortar or lime
A man on the peak of the crag.

* " Great How is a ſingle and conſpicuous hill, which riſes towards the foot of Thirl-mere, on the weſtern ſide of the beautiful dale of Legberthwaite, along the high road between Keſwick and Amblefide."

"They built him of ſtones gather'd up
as they lay,
They built him and chriſten'd him all
in one day,
An urchin both vigorous and hale;
And ſo, without ſcruple they call'd him
Ralph Jones.
Now Ralph is renown'd for the length
of his bones;
The Magog of Begberthwaite dale.
"Juſt half a week after the wind ſallied
forth,
And, in anger or merriment, out of
the North
Coming on with a terrible pother,
From the peak of the crag blew the
giant away.
And what did theſe ſchoolboys?—The
very next day
They went and they built up ano-
ther.
"Some little I've ſeen of blind boiſte-
rous works
In Paris and London, 'mong Chriſtians
or Turks,
Spirits buſy to do and undo:
At remembrance whereof my blood
ſometimes will flag.
Then, light-hearted boys, to the top
of the crag!
And I'll build up a giant with you."
P. 163.

X. *Radical Means of counteracting the preſent Scarcity, and preventing Famine in future*; including the Propoſal of a Maximum, founded on a new Principle. To which is prefixed, an Addreſs to the Legiſlature, on a Plan for meliorating the Condition of Society at large. By GEORGE EDWARDS, Eſq. 8vo. pp. 153. 3s. 6d. *Johnſon.*

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EXTRACTS.

EXCESSIVE BURDENS ON AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY, A CAUSE OF SCARCITY.

" EXCESSIVE burdens impoſed upon the agricultural induſtry of the kingdom, are certainly a very material cauſe in preventing the adequate ſupply of phyſical ſuſtenance and proper neceſſaries for the ſupport of the community.

" Such burdens muſt be repaid from the produce of land; and the farmer, unwilling to diſcharge them from his own profits, will conſequently lay them upon the public, and advance the price of the different articles in which he deals. The general advance of the prices of commodities; the great increaſe of the old ceſſes, and the new taxes, laid within theſe few years immediately upon the farmer; the great riſe of rents, for which the gentlemen, oppreſſed by the additional weight of taxes, cannot properly be blamed; and the tithes, which are continually advancing, are powerful incitements to raiſe the price of proviſion. Farmers will not gain leſs, but more money, than they have done; for, goaded forwards by ſuch incentives, they are no longer able to keep within moderate bounds. Hence the numerous neceſſaries of life, which agriculture ſupplies, come at laſt to be ſo much increaſed in price, that the abilities of the lower claſſes are no longer able to purchaſe them.

" The reaſon ſhould be ſeriouſly inveſtigated, why landed property is burdened ſo grievouſly as it is at preſent; when through its channel, the community is ſupplied with infinitely the greater part of the neceſſaries of life. Certainly it ought to be ſpared in future. May it not be aſſerted, that, according to the old ſtanding policy of this country, of the annual value of lands one fifth is ſet apart for the land-tax, another for parochial ceſſes and repairs wanted upon the farm, one for tithes, one for the landlord, and another for the tenant; and that the preſent expenſive war muſt leave the landlord and the tenant only one of theſe parts, or leſs than one, between them, unleſs agricultural produce is raiſed to an enormouſly high price? Why do the poor-rates and various other Iriſh ceſſes reſt upon landed prope[illegible] On what principle of finance can [illegible] juſt, for a tax to be impoſed upon [illegible]d excluſively? Why, though it can ſupport very great burdens, is the maintenance of the eſtabliſhed church to be impoſed upon its ſhoulders? The latter query may certainly be reſolved with propriety by an abſurd anſwer: it is impoſed on land purpoſely to advance the prices of the neceſſaries of life, and produce abſolute ſcarcity and famine. The tithes prevent effectually the melioration of an immenſe quantity of old encloſed ground in the kingdom, capable of the higheſt improvements, under the moſt favourable circumſtances; and the ſpirited cultivation of numerous tracts of land, lying in a neglected and unencloſed ſtate. They are incompatible with the employment of large capitals in theſe views; for money will never be laid out, where others beſide the proprietors muſt be admitted, to partake largely of the returns and advantages expected from it. They are an effectual ſtoppage to all future hopes of plenty and abundance in the kingdom; for they prevent that further advancement and perfection of agriculture, upon which theſe happy proſpects actually depend. They have always been inſtrumental in preventing farmers and their landlords from freely beſtowing their induſtry, ingenuity, and money, upon the improvement of their land; and muſt continue to be ſo, unleſs commuted, or by ſome means removed from agriculture, as they readily may in the moſt unexceptionable manner. Hence the public will loſe that ample produce, and thoſe increaſed ſtores of fertility, which it has a right to expect from ſuch improvements.

" Tithes muſt always impede the advance

advance of cultivation. Increaſe of rent is not rarely a ſtrong incitement to ſpirited management, and the adoption of more productive modes of huſbandry; therefore on particular occaſions is the means of procuring a greater produce of the neceſſaries of life. The value of landed property ought to increaſe with that of all other commodities, and agricultural produce to fetch its juſt proportional price; yet ſuch additional value and price may be much more advantageouſly ſought in the increaſe of produce, by the improvement of ground and ſuperior cultivation. Taxes immediately impoſed upon agriculture may very readily become injurious, as diſcouraging cultivation, and hence advancing the prices of the neceſſaries of life. Thus, I am very credibly informed, that the late aſſeſſed taxes, by inducing the cultivators of ſmall farms to part with all the horſes they could ſpare, had the effect of greatly diminiſhing the produce of ſuch farms; for they could not afford afterwards to buy oats at the late high prices for their reduced number of horſes, which required to be much better fed than they were before. Hence the proprietors were not able to till their ground properly, and carry a due quantity of manure, ſuch as lime, to it: this was a fact, at leaſt in ſome countries. Taxes will in general have the greateſt influence upon ſmall farmers, and prevent them in particular from laying out money in the ſpirited management of their land.

"The too great prevalence of ſpeculation in regard to the neceſſaries of life, certainly may very materially prevent the adequate ſupply of phyſical ſuſtenance, and proper neceſſaries of life for the ſupport of the community. It is capable of raiſing their prices to a very extraordinary height throughout the nation at large: and has no doubt conſiderably augmented the evil of the preſent ſcarcity. The ſpirit of commerce, ſo largely diffuſed through the kingdom, is naturally diſpoſed to give a very extenſive and powerful effect to ſpeculation in the neceſſaries of life; and it is not ſurpriſing that it ſhould have laid its graſp upon proviſion, as the means of making a fortune at the preſent period, or that it ſhould continue to keep up the preſent high prices. The paper credit of the kingdom is a powerful weapon in its hands, and enables the ſpeculator to accompliſh all his projects. The merchants having the corn trade under their command, muſt have too great influence upon the market; and due juſtice can hardly be expected from them, in general, when it is contrary to their intereſts. I have been informed that forty or fifty ſhips brought cargoes of corn and flour into a certain northern port during the period of the preſent ſcarcity, and that theſe were ſold immediately for country bank-notes, iſſued for the purpoſe, at ſufficiently reduced prices, but the articles themſelves continued, in the town and neighbourhood, to ſell by retail at the ſame high price as before. Beſide ſpeculators, what are called middle-men are very numerous at the preſent time, and certainly, not ſeldom, have raiſed the price of proviſion conſiderably to the conſumers. Theſe, as ſaving the time of others, and expert in their reſpective buſineſſes, may be of great ſervice; yet if it be poſſible, or if they be not duly obſerved by the public, they will ſeek to take unfair advantages: if too few in number, they can fix what price they pleaſe upon the commodities in which they deal; or if very numerous, they will rather live and thrive upon the public, than break, or ſtarve.

"The partial application of agriculture for the benefit of the wealthy, to the injury of the indigent part of the community, has been announced as the ſeventh cauſe which impedes the adequate ſupply of phyſical ſuſtenance, and proper neceſſaries for the ſupport of the community. The growth of wheat and rye has for many years greatly decreaſed in the kingdom; and the conſequent ſcarcity being augmented by the increaſe of population and greater conſumption, occaſioned by the preſent war. The principal purpoſes, on account of which agriculture has been diverted from the cultivation of grain beſt adapted for human food, are thoſe of fattening ſtock, and keeping a greater number of horſes. Of each of theſe it is proper here to take ſome notice.

"Chiefly in order to ſupply the ſhambles, the old triennial rotation of fallow, winter, and ſpring corn, has, in many countries, given way to a crop of turnips, and two of ſpring corn, or to a quadrennial courſe of turnips, barley, clo-

ver,

ver, and wheat; in conſequence, the quantity of wheat and rye cultivated in this country is conſiderably diminiſhed, and other agricultural produce increaſed in proportion. Nay, in ſome parts, in order to grow more turnips, theſe and a ſingle ſpring crop are continued in conſtant alternation. Even far fewer milch cattle are kept, and much leſs cheeſe and butter made, in order to fatten a greater number of ſtock; nay, often fewer ſtock, in order to make theſe more completely fat. The quantity of meadow land is greater in many countries than is neceſſary for the dairy, and its after-graſs is employed to finiſh off ſtock that has been ſummer-grazed. This laſt is indeed a remnant of the old practice of ſupplying the winter conſumption with hung meat, ſlaughtered in the end of autumn. As perhaps both this mode, and that of ſupplying the winter market with freſh meat, are not requiſite, more corn might be grown by abandoning the practice here mentioned, ſhould this be neceſſary.

"The demand for animal food is very conſiderable in this kingdom; an infinitely greater quantity of it is now conſumed by the community at large than was a few years ago. The increaſe of commercial wealth has materially contributed to augment its conſumption, and yearly extends the demand for it; for even the price of it has greatly advanced of late years in the northern counties of England, in conſequence of the fat ſtock ſent into manufacturing diſtricts farther ſouth. The quantity of land in corn has leſſened upon another account; arable land is in general unmercifully ſcourged, to uſe the common term on this occaſion, or ill-treated under corn, and at laſt laid to graſs in an exhauſted condition: alſo when improved it is frequently converted into graſs, and kept in this ſtate that it may not be expoſed again to ſuch devaſtations. Graſs land alſo lets higher than corn land, and for both reaſons often is not permitted to be converted into arable.

"There are means, which deſerve attention, for the removal, or rather the prevention of the evil, explained under the preſent head; and to which perſons of landed property can give proper effect. They may permit a ſufficiently extenſive growth of corn in ſuitable countries; may peremptorily inſiſt upon a due proportion of wheat and rye in the rotation of crops; and can readily obtain from the legiſlature ſuch regulations as would prevent the frequent abuſe of arable lands. Upon tracts of inferior land, long encloſed, but lying generally in unfavourable climates, the agricultural improvement of which has been neglected, but has been recommended at length under the fifth of the preceding heads, a greater quantity of corn may certainly be ſown with more advantage than is at preſent, yet they are more ſuitable in graſs. The kind ſuperintendence of government, pointing out the quantity of corn neceſſary for the known population of the kingdom, may be very inſtrumental in promoting a ſufficient growth of it. If theſe views fail, if the propoſed national improvement of agriculture be not adopted, and if money be not advanced for ſupplying the community with corn at ſufficiently reduced prices, the due proportion of arable land, and of rye and wheat to be grown thereon, muſt be fixed by law: for a ſufficient quantity of corn muſt at any rate be produced for the conſumption of the lower orders.

"A large proportion of the agricultural produce of the kingdom is conſumed in the ſupport of horſes: hence there muſt be a conſiderably leſs quantity of the neceſſaries of life for the uſe of the human ſpecies. The number of horſes in the kingdom admits of a twofold diviſion: firſt, ſuch as are bred upon farms, and employed in the farming buſineſs; and ſecondly, ſuch as are uſed for the general purpoſes of the community, amongſt which are to be claſſed the horſes kept for pleaſure. Thoſe of the ſecond claſs, and more eſpecially pleaſure horſes, are very numerous, and greatly encroach upon the food deſtined for the ſupport of the lower and middling orders. On this account it is a very important object to reduce their numbers. However, it is not ſeriouſly intended to perſuade gentlemen that muſcular exerciſe of the body is the moſt wholeſome, that the heroes of ancient times were agile in the race during the decline of life, and that their own ſtables and dog-kennels deprive the poor of valuable means of ſubſiſtence; yet the exceſſive number of horſes kept for racing, fox-hunting, and pleaſure in general, is at the preſent time an intolerable evil. Horſes employed for carriages on the roads, and often for commercial purpoſes,

purposes, it would seem, cannot be dispensed with: though their number might be much reduced by the frequency of inland navigation; and oxen, in some countries abroad, are principally used for the purpose of carriages." *P.* 110.

XI. *Strictures on the true Cause of the present alarming Scarcity of Grain and other Provisions*; and a Plan for permanent Relief: humbly submitted to public Consideration. By ALEXANDER ANNESLEY. With an historical Deduction of the Prices of Provisions. Interspersed with various Matters connected with the Commerce and Navigation of Great Britain. Together with a chronological Account of the several Statutes, Proclamations, and Parliamentary Regulations, for controlling the Markets, and preventing Monopoly, Engrossing, &c. &c. from the Norman Conquest to the present Æra. 8vo. pp. 79. 2s. *Murray and Highley.*

EXTRACTS.

"MUCH has been imputed to the expensive war we are at present engaged in, and to which our calamitous dearths have by many been ascribed; but on a candid and impartial investigation it will be found that the war has rather been the *pretext* for, than the *cause* of, the present high price of every article of subsistence. We must not form our judgment of the political and fiscal circumstances of nations by the rules of appreciating the occurrences of private life. It may with mathematical precision be demonstrated, that our increased expenses have been the natural result of additional resources pouring in upon us from every quarter; nay, I will undertake to prove, that a large proportion of the subsidies paid to our allies, as well as of the immense contributions our inveterate foes have levied on them, have found their way to our coffers!—Britain stands a political phenomenon on the face of the globe! and posterity will, in her history, contemplate with admiration the noble struggle she has made under circumstances of depression that must have appalled the strongest minds! Posterity will know how to appreciate the merits of those who, in the day of nerveless despondence and paralysed horror, placed themselves in the breach, with a fortitude unparalleled, and a magnanimity unrivalled, in the annals of nations! Posterity will exult in the noble and imposing attitude she assumed when the rest of Europe were crouching at the feet of the monstrous *chimæra*, and when the greatest potentates that attempted to tame her were panic-struck by a *bare look* from her *Corsican keeper!*" *P.* 2.

"A wide distinction certainly exists in laying restraints on articles of *prime necessity*, or on commodities peculiarly denominated *mercantile articles*.—The one is essential to our existence, the other rather ministering to our luxury than satisfying our natural wants; yet to meddle with either, in a free commercial state, is, I confess, very dangerous. It cannot be denied, however, that the *axiom* so generally adopted of every species of trade, whether in articles of the first necessity or those of luxury, *finding their own level*, has been practically proved *fallacious*, and less solid than we could possibly conceive, from the splendid talents of those who laid it down as an incontrovertible *postulatum*. However impolitic or anti-commercial it may be to lay restraints on manufactures and trading commodities, it will never be denied that the articles essential to the existence of every individual in the state ought not, nay cannot, come within the general rule of *finding their own level*. The practice of our ancestors invalidates the position, and our statute-books bear indubitable testimony against the practicability of so erroneous a maxim.

"In this age of *politeness*, or, we may with more truth write, in this age of licentiousness, when no other scale of *merit* or *virtue* exists but the depth or breadth of the *purse*, *empty praise* has little efficacy, and *applause* without *profit* operates but *coldly* on the human mind!

Probitas laudatur, et alget.

The only emulation now prevailing is, not who shall confer most benefit *on*, but who shall become the richest man *in* his country! Those whose heads and hearts would otherwise reflect honour

nour on the kingdom, are unhappily tainted with ſordid avarice, not ſo much ariſing from a *depraved mind* as a bending to the mania of the times and a childiſh predilection for the poſſeſſion of ſplendid trifles.

"The exiſting abuſes imperiouſly call on the ſtrong arm of government for *aid* and *redreſs*, and in an eſpecial degree for rendering the conveyance of articles of the firſt neceſſity to the hands of the conſumer leſs circuitous. The number of *middle-men* between the agriculturiſt and the conſumer ſhould be leſſened, all contracts and ſales of grain and cattle, as well as other articles of ſtock, ſhould be invalid, unleſs made *bonâ fide* in the open market *, and the corn inſpector's law ſhould be fully enforced, in caſe of any violation of that ſtatute. Private intereſts muſt not be permitted to ſtand in competition with the public welfare, and apprehended evils ought never to impede the redreſs of thoſe already exiſting: but my plan does not extend to *compulſory ſales*, or fixing a *maximum* on the articles of ſubſiſtence. My object is to recommend a ſyſtem for procuring *voluntary*, regular, and ſpeedy ſupplies, and to point out plans which may ultimately prevent the ſending ſuch immenſe ſums out of the kingdom for the purchaſe of *foreign grain*.

"The inefficacy of laws to compel farmers to bring their grain to market, without making it their intereſt to do ſo, has been fully demonſtrated; to reſort to ſimilar meaſures, therefore, would be as injudicious as impracticable. But the evil does not entirely ariſe from the farmer withholding ſupplies. The miſchief is only half removed when he has fairly and properly brought his grain for ſale; a great number of rapacious agents are permitted to ſtep in between the farmer and the conſumer, all of whom ſtruggle for profit, whereby the price is ſo conſiderably enhanced as to place bread almoſt entirely without the reach of the poor! Theſe leeches ſhould be ſhook off. The ſtate engine will work with more freedom when its machinery becomes leſs complex." *P.* 12.

"A great deal has been ſaid and written on the utility of bounties on the exportation of corn, which were originally granted in order to prevent loſs to the agriculturiſt in a plentiful year. This was certainly a wiſe expedient, and very properly reſorted to for the promotion of tillage. But it unfortunately has happened that this plan, like many other well-intended regulations, carried with it an evil unforeſeen by the original promoters—for no proviſion was made againſt ſeaſons of ſcarcity, inaſmuch as the ſuperflux corn ought rather to have been reſerved in public granaries, agreeably to the practice of other European nations, and even our own anceſtors.

"By granting bounties on exportation, without either limiting the quantity, or reſerving in public granaries a ſufficient ſtore to check monopoly, and guard againſt ſcarcity, very ſerious miſchief has enſued; it has held out a bait for rapacity to catch at, and thrown temptations in the way of the capitaliſt that were irreſiſtible.—And when this deſcription of men once taſted with how much facility princely fortunes might be acquired, they ſoon became callous to other men's complaints; propelled alone by ſordid views, they ſhut their *eyes* as well as *ears* againſt all *moral* and *religious* precept, *intrenching* themſelves behind ſuch barriers as *legal artillery* could never reach.—Thus the price of wheat was gradually enhanced, and what was originally intended as an encouragement and reward for ſuperior exertions in tillage, became in fact a very great and almoſt inſupportable burden on the people—tending more to check the population of the country than any other cauſe.

"Nor was this all—the corn-merchant, not the farmer, for whoſe ſole benefit the meaſure was intended, became enriched in years of plenty by his immenſe exports, without any very material advantages reſulting to the cultivator of the ſoil, whoſe additional profit, ariſing from the bounty, was only ſixpence per buſhel; and in years of ſcarcity, the merchants, by importing foreign grain, acquired immenſe profits

* "We are well aſſured that there are a number of very opulent perſons who have entered into contracts for the purchaſe of corn and cattle for a certain number of years; and, conſequently, if a plentiful year enſues, the public can derive no benefit from ſuch a bleſſing, as the market is governed by theſe gentlemen, who find means moſt ſhamefully to evade the law!"

at the expenſe of a famiſhed multitude, without a ſingle benefit reſulting to agriculturiſts! Thus a body of men, whom the legiſlature rather *tolerated* than *encouraged*, ſtepped in between the *huſbandman* and the *conſumer*, reaping advantages, intended to confer *general*, not *partial* benefits: and thus avarice converted the plenty of one year to private emolument, inſtead of general relief, through an overſight in the legiſlature, who ought to have guarded againſt rapacity, by retaining a part of the ſurplus corn of a plentiful year, at a low inveſtment, to meet future exigencies. By neglecting ſuch a proviſion, the liberality of the legiſlature has only tended to promote the ſordid views of monopoliſts, who have unhappily ſeized the opportunity of aggrandizing themſelves at the *expenſe* of the *public*." *P.* 18.

"I ſhall, therefore, without further circumlocution, proceed to ſtate my plan for permanent relief, one part of which is, to pay a bounty of five ſhillings per quarter on the firſt two millions of quarters of new wheat that the farmers ſhall bring to, and, *bonâ fide*, diſpoſe of, in *open market*, in their reſpective vicinity. And no grain or other ſpecies of proviſion ſhould, on any account, be permitted to be ſold, or any contract whatever relating to grain or other ſpecies of proviſions be deemed valid, but ſuch as are made with the utmoſt publicity in the open market. And, to prevent monopoly, it would be adviſable to ſubject all grain (if not other proviſions) *to the operation of the exciſe laws!* However unpopular ſuch a propoſition may be, yet, when we reflect on the immenſe advantages likely to emanate from the meaſure, I feel no difficulty in ſubmitting the propoſal to legiſlative conſideration; for, without regular returns of the ſtock in hand and the ſales, made in the uſual manner that other exciſed commodities are ſubjected to, abuſes will prevail, and ultimately counteract the beſt digeſted plans and moſt judicious ſyſtems. And if any grain ſhould be improperly hoarded by purchaſers for ſelfiſh purpoſes, and withheld from the conſumer for a given time, then ſuch purchaſer ſhould incur the penalties of engroſſing, &c.

"It would be ſeen in a ſhort ſpace of time whether the dearth is real or factitious. And if it ſhould happen that wheat, by the adoption of this meaſure (of which there cannot remain a doubt), ſhould be reduced to 60*s.* per quarter, in that caſe I ſhould humbly ſubmit that government ſhould become purchaſers of at leaſt two million quarters of wheat, to be ſtored in public granaries or magazines, agreeably to the practice and cuſtom of many European ſtates, in order to meet future exigencies. By ſuch a ſtep no loſs would be likely to enſue to government ultimately; but if any did accrue, it would certainly bear no proportion to the miſchief of expatriating ſuch immenſe ſums, as we have been recently driven to, and which can in no way find their way back to this country.

"The natural wants of agriculturiſts, and the conſtant demand on them for current caſh, added to the operation of the exciſe ſyſtem, will naturally compel them to ſend their remaining ſtock to market. But if government ſhould, in the outſet, be loſers, by purchaſing at a higher price than grain can be purchaſed for in ſucceeding years, the public would in fact receive an ample compenſation by ſuch ſubſequent reduction in the price of grain." *P.* 22.

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